THE Valley INDEPENDENT

An edition of the TRIBUNE-REVIEW

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2008 | RELEVANT, RELIABLE | WWW.VALLEYINDEPENDENT.COM | 50¢

Title games routine

The Monessen girls' basketball team has a history of WPIAL title shots. **1B**

Fiddler helps Moose

A popular fiddler camped out on the roof of the Perryopolis Moose to raise money for charity. **7A**

INSIDE TODAY

Valley Seniors

Ed Dacko is far removed from his teaching career. Big band music, though, is another story. **8A**

Mayor saddened

Donora Mayor John "Chummy" Lignelli is mourning the loss of a close friend. **3A**

SPORTS

Pens beat Habs

Sergei Gonchar scored the winning goal in the third period as the Penguins edged Montreal. **1B**

Pitt falls

Pitt blew a big second-half lead in a loss to Notre Dame in South Bend. **1B**

Star still shining

Former Monessen High standout Perrial Pearson is now a star in the JUCO ranks. **1B**

DEATHS

- James M. Bagay, 48, Walton Hills, Ohio
- Dannie R. Churning, 69, Belle Vernon
- Donna Marie Collins, 64, Charleroi (Fallowfield Township)
- Ada D. "Deannie" Graham, 70, Elizabeth
- Doris M. Gross, 75, Liberty Borough
- Angela "Julia" Indorante, Charleroi
- Virginia Rosmi, North Charleroi

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WEATHER

Tonight
Cloudy 28°
Saturday
Cloudy 35°

Page 2A

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Comics	4B
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Television	5B

Two sections, 18 Pages

TOMORROW

Valley Food

Hungry? Check out Valley Food, which appears each Saturday in *The Valley Independent.*

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Murtha touts Progeny

The congressman said the workers help to protect the nation and save money.

By CHRIS BUCKLEY
Staff Writer
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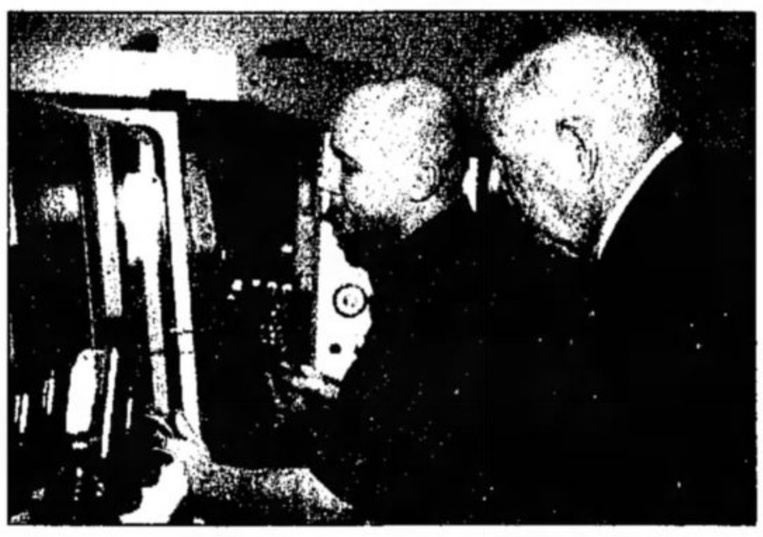
As Walter P. Kitonis III introduced U.S. Rep. John Murtha Thursday, he noted, "Without your help we wouldn't be here. Actually, we'd be here, but we'd be a lot smaller."

Instead, the Johnstown Democrat's visit to the Fallowfield Township-based defense contractor Thursday came as the firm is planning a major growth that will make it a significantly large employer.

Starting with a handful of employees in Charleroi, Progeny Systems now employs 75 at its 7,500-square-foot Alta Vista Park site. The company leases the industrial flex-space building from Fratelli Partners L.P.



U.S. Rep. John Murtha looks on as Brian Novak demonstrates a cutting machine at Progeny Systems in Fallowfield Township.

Jim Ference/The Valley Independent

Fratelli is a limited partnership formed by the LaCarte family, which operates several businesses in western Pennsylvania, including Model Cleaners.

Progeny Systems will expand into an additional 10,000-square-feet section of the building this spring and is eyeing a 22,000-square-foot expansion in an adjoining building.

The Manassas, Va.-based company will likely double its employment within the next year and could eventually encompass 100,000 square feet of space for manufacturing and research and development, likely all locally.

Murtha, chairman of the House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee, toured the Progeny Systems site, meeting with and

(See MURTHA, Page 2A)

Student aid new financial concern

The student loan program is vital to vast numbers of Pennsylvania residents.

By CRAIG SMITH
For The Valley Independent
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Political, financial and education leaders in Pennsylvania called on federal officials Thursday to provide short- and long-term aid to continue the state's student loan program.

Lawmakers in Washington might not be willing to consider that request, an area congressman said.

"We must act now to ensure that Pennsylvanians are not caught in a funding crunch that could put their college plans out of reach," said state Rep. William F. Adolph, chairman of the board of directors of the Pennsylvania Higher Education Assistance Agency, which hosted a summit yesterday.

PHEAA claims a crisis is looming in the $50 billion Federal Family Education Loan Program – a student loan program that helps 80 percent of students pay for college. About $20 billion was cut from the program in October.

Congress decided to increase the size of Pell Grants awarded over the next five years to at least $5,200 by cutting $20 billion from the loan program, said U.S. Rep. Jason Altmire, D-McCandless, a member of the House Education and Labor Committee.

Those cuts, combined with uncertainty in various financial markets, are creating concerns there won't be enough student loan money to go around.

"There's a meltdown in the credit market taking place. We're aware of their concerns and are working to address those issues," Altmire said.

Summit leaders asked Treasury Secretary Henry M. Paulson Jr., Education Secretary Margaret Spellings and other federal officials to ensure funding for the student loan program.

Altmire doesn't see much chance that Congress will revisit the funding issue.

"We're comfortable with the levels of funding," he said.

PHEAA administers a number of state-funded student aid programs and is the designated federal student loan guarantor for Pennsylvania's families and schools. About 600,000 students attend colleges in the state with the assistance of a low-cost federal student loan.

PHEAA projects 160,000 loan awards this year. The average loan is $3,195.

Agency officials said the economic downturn should not affect the number of awards this year, although the impact on next year's awards is not yet known.

Jeff Pikulsky/The Valley Independent

History re-enactor Gregory Gibson Kenney spoke Thursday to students at Donora Elementary Center. Pictured clockwise from bottom left are Tyrice Adams, Richard Massey, Logan Hayden, Breanna Hotz, Kenney, Traleana Yates and Tekayla Crews.

Black history celebrated through words of 'slave'

Belle Vernon native Gregory Gibson Kenney appeared at two area schools.

By JEFF PIKULSKY
Staff Writer
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DONORA – As part of Black History Month, Donora Elementary students Thursday learned first-hand about the vital role a slave played in the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

Speaking to students in kindergarten through grade five, Belle Vernon native and history re-enactor Gregory Gibson Kenney, of Bethel Park, portrayed York, the only black man to take part in the two-year exploration of America more than 200 years ago.

In 1803, Thomas Jefferson commissioned Capt. Meriwether Lewis and Lt. William Clark to explore the region.

The party of nearly 30 men left St. Louis in May 1804 and began traversing the Missouri River.

More than a year later, they reached their destination on the northern West Coast.

The travelers returned to St. Louis in September 1806.

In his early 20s, York made the trip as Clark's slave.

Kenney, 50, reprised the role of York while speaking to the children, referring to the audience as "youngins."

The former theatrical performer described perils the group faced, as seen through York's eyes.

Kenney began and ended his talk by singing a soulful version of the Negro spiritual "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot."

An animated Kenney spoke of enduring the harsh winter months with little food, an intense battle with an angry bear, the group's encounters with American Indian tribes and the excitement the explorers shared when they first saw the Pacific Ocean.

He emphasized York's importance to the group, especially in earning the trust of the American Indians who had never before seen a black man.

Kenney said the American Indians called York "Big Medicine."

"Master William, he tell me the Indians thought my skin color give me special powers," Kenney told the kids, speaking as York. "Oh, he said they respect me and they feared me at the same time."

> "To the Indians, he was special, he was powerful. But to everybody else, he was just a slave."
>
> GREGORY GIBSON KENNEY

Kenney said the tribesmen painted themselves black, believing it would give them strength.

(See HISTORY, Page 2A)

New restaurant coming to Eastgate section

Sam Verner must seek approval to sub-divide his parcel in Monessen.

By STACY WOLFORD
Staff Writer
swolford@tribweb.com

MONESSEN – A city business owner plans to open a new restaurant on his lot that would serve beer.

Sam Verner, owner of the Eastgate Exxon, appeared before city council Wednesday for a public hearing on a request to transfer a liquor license from a Murrysville Pizza Hut to a new restaurant.

Verner said the restaurant will feature pizza, sandwiches and beer. He plans to construct the restaurant on the Eastgate Exxon parcel.

His attorney, Tim Maatta, of Monessen, said the district is zoned commercial and Verner will seek approval to sub-divide the property.

Verner said the restaurant will seat about 30 people.

He said his original plans called for a take-out business, but because of state Liquor Control board regulation, he must also have a public seating area in order to sell beer.

Council unanimously approved the liquor license transfer.

VALLEY PEOPLE

Way clear for 'virtual fence'

Technology employed in the project is already working.

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON – A 28-mile "virtual fence" that will use radar and surveillance cameras to try to catch people entering the country illegally has gotten final government approval.

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff was to announce today approval of the fence, built by the Boeing Co. and using technology the Bush administration plans to extend to other areas of the Arizona border, as well as sections of Texas.

These projects could be under way as early as this summer, officials said.

The virtual fence is part of a national plan to secure the southwest border with physical barriers and high-tech detection capabilities intended to stop illegal immigrants on foot and drug smugglers in vehicles. As of Feb. 8, 295 miles of fencing had been constructed.

The virtual fence already is working. On Feb. 13, an officer in a Tucson command center – 70 miles from the border – noticed a group of about 100 people gathered at the border.

The officer notified agents on the ground and in the air. Border Patrol caught 38 of the 100 people who tried to cross illegally, and the others went back into Mexico, a Homeland Security official said.

The virtual fence system includes 98-foot unmanned surveillance towers that are capable of distinguishing people from cattle at a distance of about 10 miles.

Murtha (FROM PAGE ONE)

offering congratulations to several workers.

He saw sensors designed for submarines and sensors that can transmit through steel, for example.

After the tour, Murtha addressed company employees, officials and local leaders who came to greet the congressman.

Murtha said Progeny Systems is offering quality jobs to, for example, engineers, assemblers and machinists. The company's efficiency has saved the government $1.5 billion over the past few years, Murtha said.

The lawmaker included in the latest Defense Appropriations Bill a clause giving small companies improved consideration for defense contracts.

Murtha said he told the Secretary of the Navy that defense contracts must come in at the cost they are bid. Progeny Systems, whom Murtha applauded for efficiency, specifically handles naval contracts at the Fallowfield Township site.

He said Progeny Systems should be proud that they are an integral part in the defense of our country.

"I don't know who the potential enemies are, but if I have my way, we'll be prepared," Murtha said.

Murtha, the first Vietnam War veteran to serve in Congress, said the average plane 40 years ago when he served was 8.5 years old. Today, the average military plane is 25 years old.

Murtha said work by Progeny helps to modernize the military and also save money.

"We're looking at ways, innovative ways, to save money and be prepared to deploy our troops," Murtha said.

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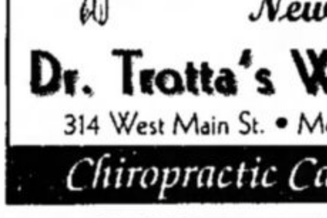

ATTENTION
ROUND HILL CEMETERY LOT OWNERS

Notice is given by Round Hill Cemetery that a seasonal clean-up will begin Saturday, March 1, 2008. Anyone wishing to reclaim his or her reusable decorations should do so before above date.

Thank You
Round Hill Cemetery Company

Yesteryear

A group of North Belle Vernon residents enjoyed an evening out at the Vogue Terrace supper club near McKeesport on April 14, 1945. Celebrating, from left, are Jim and Janie Mitchell, Jim and Millie Stringhill, Lena and Mike Mazzei, and Doris Weight and Freddy Stringhill. The photo is from the family archives of the late Janie Mitchell.

If you have a good oldtime photograph, send it to us at Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa., 15062.

Weather

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
High 35 Low 17	High 35 Low 22	High 42 Low 32	High 42 Low 25	High 32 Low 28

History (FROM PAGE ONE)

Jeff Pikulsky/The Valley Independent

Actor Gregory Gibson Kenney portrays York, a black slave who took part in the Lewis and Clark Journey of Discovery in the early 19th century. The program took place at the Donora Elementary Center.

When they saw the black man, they viewed him as a sign of power and thus treated the expedition members with respect, Kenney said.

"His skin was dark without the paint," he said of York. "To the Indians, he was special, he was powerful. But to everybody else, he was just a slave.

"We find how important this slave was to the survival of Lewis and Clark. Lots of times, they could have been killed out there by the Indians. They wanted to kill the white man. But they felt if they hurt the white man that the dark, powerful warrior that they brought with them would hurt them. That's the reason they never touched Lewis and Clark, because of York."

At one point in the trip, York was part of a majority vote the explorers took deciding to cross to the south side of the Columbia River to build winter quarters.

Kenney said that event, in a way, made York the first black man in American history to cast a vote.

The historian said York has been recognized for his contributions – after nearly two centuries.

"In the 18th, 19th and 20th centuries, I didn't get noticed much for being part of the expedition," Kenney said. "But here in the 21st century, Donora Elementary, I'm definitely being noticed.

"Ya see, in the year 2000, it was President William Jefferson Clinton who made me an honorary sergeant in the United States Army. In the year 2002, I was inducted into the Great Western Cowboy Museum.

"In 2003, I'm honored where it all started, President Thomas Jefferson's home in Monticello. But, Donora Elementary, the biggest honor placed upon me is that statue of my likeness. It sit at the waterfront in Louisville, Ky. It's pointin' West. I honestly do believe in my heart, good things, they do come in time.

"My name is York. I was definitely a slave. Please, youngins, don't ever forget, I too was a member of the Corps of Discovery."

The students at Thursday's assembly learned about York before the presentation.

Afterward, Kenney fielded dozens of questions from the wide-eyed youngsters.

One student's query provided insight to Kenney's family ties to slavery.

The young boy asked Kenney why York had no last name.

Kenney said that was common, adding that slaves sometimes adopted their owners' last names.

That's how Kenney's last name came to be.

"My family, who were slaves, were on a plantation where the owner's name was Kenney, and they took his name as their last name. And that's why my last name is Kenney, which is an Irish name," he said.

Kenney has posed as historic black figures for the last 12 years as the head of his company, Educate Us Productions.

He helps children learn through interactive presentations and encourages them to read about history.

Kenney travels to 15 states and presents more than 350 programs per year.

Kenney said he attempts to tell history from an often untold angle.

"We do black history, but we also teach kids how important it is to read books and do research and how simple it is ... and that they can do it with anybody in history they want to do it with," he said. "It doesn't have to be African American figures in history. I've got a lot of school saying to me, 'Who does white figures in American history?' What I really want to do is spin my company off and start hiring white actors."

The historian said he learned of York's contributions only four years ago, when the Senator John Heinz Regional History Center in Pittsburgh celebrated the journey's bicentennial.

"I don't think anybody knows there was an African American on the expedition," Kenney said.

Donora Elementary faculty members and Principal Ross Ference said they were impressed with Kenney's portrayal of York.

Maureen Andrews, diversity committee member and Donora Elementary reading teacher, said Kenney has been a hit with the kids.

Kenney's visit Thursday was his third to the Donora Elementary Center.

Andrews said the children were excited to see the actor again.

"I think it has a strong impact on them. It stays with them," she said. "He keeps everybody's attention. The kids remember him."

Ference said he received a history lesson through Kenney's talk.

"I thought it was captivating in capturing the history of the Lewis and Clark expedition from the eyes of a different participant we usually don't read about," Ference said. "And, how appropriate this was for a school that has the diversity that we have within our population here."

After his talk at Donora Elementary, Kenney headed to Marion Elementary School in the Belle Vernon Area School District.

Kenney has spoken there for the last five years.

Kim Long, a member of Marion Elementary Parent Teacher Association, said she brought Kenney to the school after finding him on the Internet.

Long, a learning support teacher at Donora Elementary, later suggested that Kenney speak at that school, too.

"He really brings history to life," Long said of Kenney. "That's the best way to learn."

Valley briefs

Challenge delays casino hearing

A court challenge caused Majestic Star Casino officials Thursday to postpone a public hearing on the $450 million Pittsburgh casino's lighting and landscaping designs.

The city's Planning Commission hearing had been set for Tuesday. It hasn't been rescheduled.

The Pittsburgh Riverlife Task Force filed a legal appeal Feb. 12 with the state Supreme Court challenging the commission's Jan. 14 approval of a 119-foot parking garage to be built next to the casino.

Recall involves local ice cream

Ice cream sold in six states, including Western Pennsylvania, has been recalled because it may contain pieces of peanut butter candy or peanuts without indicating those ingredients on the label, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration said.

The FDA and Cleveland-based Pierre's Ice Cream Co. have issued an allergy alert for Pierre's Homestyle Dutch Chocolate ice cream with the chocolate pieces.

The ice cream may have reached consumers through retail stores in Western Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Kentucky, Ohio, Michigan and Indiana, the company said.

"It's a very limited amount. It should be very isolated," said Laura Hindulak, a spokeswoman for the company, which has been making ice cream since 1932.

None of the ice cream was sold at Giant Eagle stores in western Pennsylvania.

Supervalu Inc., which supplies Shop 'n Save and Foodland stores, was not affected by the recall, said spokeswoman Rebekah Fawcett.

Area man charged with sex abuse

A New Stanton man is accused of having photographs of partially clad and nude teenagers on his computer, including some involving bikini wrestling with area teens.

James W. Crise, 26, of West Pennsylvania Ave., was arraigned Thursday before Greensburg District Judge James Albert on charges of sexual abuse of children, sexual exploitation of children, unlawful contact with a minor, criminal use of a communication facility, interference with custody of children, conspiracy and corruption of minors.

Jeff Pikulsky/The Valley Independent

Denny Naccarato clears the lot at Naccarato Auto Parts in Monessen this morning. Today's mix of snow and then freezing rain and sleet will turn to just snow tonight and early Saturday before sunny skies return for the rest of the weekend.

Donora's mayor in anguish in wake of accidental death

Manuel "Pete" Lorenzo died Tuesday after attempting to stop mayor's unmanned car.

By DAVID M. BROWN
For The Valley Independent
dbrown@tribweb.com

Donora Mayor John Lignelli was in anguish Thursday over losing a good friend from injuries in an accident involving the mayor's car.

Manuel "Pete" Lorenzo, 70, of Donora died Tuesday at Monongahela Valley Hospital. Lorenzo, a retired Pennsylvania Department of Transportation construction inspector, was taken to the hospital by ambulance Sunday from Palmer Park in Donora.

Lignelli, 86, said he stopped at the park about 11 a.m. to check out an area where he was to perform a wedding that afternoon. After he got out of his 2000 Oldsmobile, the car started to roll, he said.

The mayor and Lorenzo, who was nearby, tried to stop the car, which knocked Lorenzo down and ran over his leg, Lignelli said. Lorenzo insisted he was OK, the mayor said. Lignelli called for police and an ambulance.

"It was just a freak accident that I feel very terrible about. He was a very close friend of mine," Lignelli said yesterday. "I talked to him a couple of times at the hospital and he was joking that he was in good shape."

Lignelli said his friend didn't hit his head on the car or ground. Members of Lorenzo's family have been supportive and have tried to console him.

"His wife told me there was nothing I did wrong. It was just an accident," Lignelli said. "But Pete Lorenzo is gone. I just cannot get over it."

The Washington County Coroner's office said a ruling on the manner and cause of Lorenzo's death is pending the results of an autopsy.

Lorenzo was an Army veteran, and a member of Our Lady of the Valley Parish in Donora, the American Croatian Citizens Club of Donora and the Donora Spanish Club. He is survived by Emily, his wife of 41 years; two sons, Pete and Eric, both of Donora; and four grandchildren.

His obituary appears on Pagr 4A.

Ex-Wecht secretary 'bothered' by billing

Former coroner allegedly allayed her concerns about overcharging private clients.

By JASON CATO
For The Valley Independent
jcato@tribweb.com

A secretary to former Allegheny County Coroner Cyril H. Wecht testified Thursday that she feared her boss might have defrauded private clients, but that he allayed those concerns.

"We were charging mileage and limousine services ... and it bothered me," said Eileen Young, who took the stand for a fourth straight day in Wecht's public corruption trial in U.S. District Court, Downtown.

"I had concern that we were not using a limo and that Dr. Wecht was not using his own car or using his own gas. My assumption was he was using the county car."

After speaking to Wecht, however, Young said she felt better about his use of fake limousine receipts sent to out-of-town clients and pocketing mileage reimbursements paid by surrounding counties in Western Pennsylvania.

"Eileen, there are a lot of things that are incidentals when I'm out of town," Young recalled Wecht saying. "Instead of billing for each and every one of those, I just choose to do it this way."

He cited expenses such as nail clippers, razors and tolls, Young said.

"He just listed a few things for me. I don't remember each one he listed. But it does make sense," she testified.

Assistant U.S. Attorney James Wilson pounced, producing an invoice Young sent to one of Wecht's private clients billing $25 for

(See WECHT, Page 7A)

Monessen residents due sewer usage fee

New levy will add $60 to annual sewer bill.

By STACY WOLFORD
Staff Writer
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MONESSEN - City council has approved a line usage fee that will cost sewage customers $60 more per year.

Councilmen Wayne Doptis, Jeff Gagatko and Josh Retos approved charging customers an extra $15 per quarter during Wednesday night's meeting.

The average Mon Valley Sewage Authority bill is $55 per quarter. While the city is imposing the fees, the authority has agreed to handle the billing.

Mayor Anthony Petaccia and Councilman John Harhai voted against the fee amount.

Petaccia said he supports a $20 per year fee, which was adopted by neighboring Donora.

Donora and Monessen leaders decided in December to charge customers a line usage fee that will go into funds to pay for repairs on the century-old sewage lines. Each municipality will have its own account for the fees.

Donora council elected to impose a $20 fee, meaning customers will pay $5 extra per quarter.

Doptis said he supports the $60 fee as it will generate enough money to conduct major repairs.

Both Monessen and Donora own their respective sewer lines. The sewage those lines carry is treated by the Mon Valley Sewage Authority, based in Donora. The authority serves about 3,600 customers in Monessen and 2,000 in Donora.

In other business, Harhai questioned a decision by Doptis to allow the street department crews to remove snow and spread salt at Park Manor and Westgate Manor.

"Why are our people on private property plowing and salting?" Harhai asked.

Doptis said he was asked by one of the housing directors as the parking lots are a safety hazard and emergency crews need access.

"We are not covered insurance wise. What are you doing? Someone asked you for a favor and you did it with citizen's money," Harhai said. "You can't do it. Stop it."

After the meeting, Doptis said he would have a prepared statement to comment on the accusations.

Several residents also spoke at the meeting about the strained relationship among council members and a proposal by Harhai to buy the Mon Valley Community Health Center.

The mayor's mother, Lia Petaccia, of Monessen, said she was proud that he was "speaking up for what's right."

"For two years I've been telling my son to be more aggressive. Something needs to be discussed, so these people can all hear," she said. We need someone who speaks up for what's right.

John Howard, of Monessen, attended his first

(See MONESSEN Page 7A)

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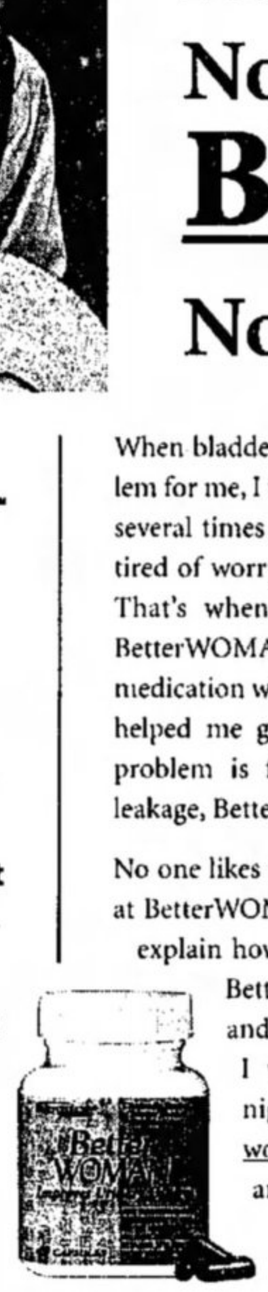

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RECORDS

DEATH NOTICES

BAGAY – James A. Bagay, 48, of Walton Hills, Ohio, on Tuesday, Feb. 19.*

CHURNING – Dannie R. Churning, 69, of Belle Vernon, on Wednesday, Feb. 20. Milliken and Throckmorton Funeral Home Inc., Waynesburg.*

COLLINS – Donna Marie Collins, 64, of Charleroi (Fallowfield Township), on Thursday, Feb. 21. Greenlee Funeral Home, Bentleyville.*

GRAHAM – Ada D. "Deannie" Graham, 70, of Elizabeth, on Thursday, Feb. 21. Paul E. Bekavac Funeral Home, Elizabeth.*

GROSS – Doris M. Gross, 75, of Liberty Borough, on Wednesday, Feb. 20. Willig Funeral Home & Cremation Services, McKeesport.*

INDORANTE – Angela "Julia" Indorante, of Charleroi, on Thursday, Feb. 21. Carl J. Spallino Funeral Home, Charleroi.

ROSMI – Virginia Rosmi, of North Charleroi, on Monday, Feb. 18. Carl J. Spallino Funeral Home, Charleroi.

PREVIOUS DEATHS

FINE, Clara T.*

HARMON, James Francis*

LORENZO, Manuel "Pete"*

James M. Bagay
Walton Hills, Ohio

Word has been received of the death of James M. Bagay, 48, of Walton Hills, Ohio. He was the son of the late Andrew and Ann Janos Bagay. He was a long-time business owner of JimmyB's Pizza in Monongahela. He was the beloved husband of Joyce A. Palgut-Bagay; cherished brother of Andrew (Barbara), Susan, Patricia, Kathleen (Frank) Slampak, the Rev. Martin J. (Katherine), Andrea (James) Welsh, and Theresa (Anthony) DiDonato; son-in-law of Stella Palgut; dear uncle and great-uncle of many; and loved by many cousins and friends. Visitation will be held Friday, February 22, from 2 to 4 and 6 to 9 p.m. at the FERFOLIA FUNERAL HOME, 356 West Aurora Rd. (Ohio Route 82), Sagamore Hills, Ohio (330-467-4500). A prayer service will be held Saturday, February 23, at 9:15 a.m. in the funeral home, followed by a 10 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial in St. Mary Catholic Church, 340 Union St., Bedford, Ohio.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Dannie R. Churning
Belle Vernon

Dannie R. Churning, 69, of Belle Vernon, died at 2:09 p.m. on Wednesday, February 20, 2008, in Monongahela Valley Hospital. He was born Friday, January 6, 1939, in Wichita, Kan., a son of the late Theodore Churning and Ruth Rutledge Churning. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army. Mr. Churning enjoyed bowling and golf. He was an independent truck driver. His wife, Segretta Marlene Conaway Churning, whom he married July 29, 1966, passed away January 22, 1993. He is survived by one daughter, Michelle Russell, of Buena Vista; one son, Dannie R. Churning Jr., of Belle Vernon; three grandchildren, Melinda Sue Russell, Travis Russell and Austin Russell; one great-granddaughter, Rylee Marie Wyne; one sister, Shirley Bucci, of Monongahela; and several nieces and nephews. In addition to his parents and wife, he was preceded in death by one brother, Dale Dean Churning. Friends will be received Friday, February 22, from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. at the MILLIKEN AND THROCKMORTON FUNERAL HOME INC., Daryl L. Throckmorton, Owner/Director, 197 North Maiden St., Waynesburg (724-627-7505), where services will be conducted on Saturday, February 23, at 11 a.m. with the Rev. John Phipps officiating. Burial will be in Phillips Cemetery, Wayne Township, Greene County. Information on-line at www.milliken-throckmortonfh.com.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Donna M. Collins
Fallowfield Township

Donna Marie Collins, 64, of Charleroi (Fallowfield Township), died unexpectedly on Thursday, February 21, 2008, in the emergency room at Mon Valley Hospital. She was born October 19, 1943, in Monongahela, a daughter of the late Earl and Jeanette O'Leary Metzler. A homemaker, Mrs. Collins was a long-time member of Ave Maria Parish in Bentleyville. She enjoyed gardening, reading, traveling, her pets and, most of all, spending time with her family and friends. On July 18, 1959, she married Lewis Collins, who survives. Surviving, in addition to her husband, are seven sons, Lewis R. Collins, of Darlington, S.C., Gary Collins of Wheeling, W.Va., David Collins, of Washington, Pa., John Collins, of Houston, Pa., Joe Collins, of Scenery Hill, Earl Collins, of Charleroi, and Mark Collins, of Forest Hills; two sisters, Lila Mason, of Donora, and Gloria Mountain, of Monongahela; one brother, Paul Metzler, of Donora; six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews. Deceased, in addition to her parents, are two brothers, Harry Metzler and Earl Metzler Jr.; and two sisters, Patty Gosney and Ellen Jarvis. Friends will be received from 6 to 9 p.m. Friday, February 22, in the GREENLEE FUNERAL HOME, 619 Main St., Bentleyville (724-239-2191), where prayers will be said at noon on Saturday, February 23, followed by a 12:30 p.m. Mass of Christian Burial in Ave Maria Church, Bentleyville, with the Rev. Gary Krummert as celebrant. Interment will be in St. Luke Cemetery, Bentleyville. On-line guest book and personal condolences may be accessed at www.GreenleeFuneralHome.com.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Clara T. Fine
Forward Township

Clara T. Fine, 88, of Monongahela (Forward Township), died Wednesday, February 20, 2008, in Lawson Nursing Home. Born May 4, 1919, in Forward Township, she was the daughter of the late Andrew and Johanna Wascovitch Anthony. From 1950 to 1970 she and her husband owned and operated a dairy farm in Eighty Four. She was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Monongahela. Surviving are four sons and daughters-in-law, Louis C. and Linda Fine, of Forward Township, Gordan B. Jr. and Mary Lou Fine, of Eighty Four, Lawrence E. and Ruth Ann Fine, of Forward Township, and Roger L. and Rose Fine, of Donora; one daughter and son-in-law, Joan C. and James Holbert, of Eighty Four; one sister, Betty Magyar, of Butler; 20 grandchildren, 36 great-grandchildren and four great-great-grandchildren. Preceding her in death was her husband, Gordon B. Fine Sr., on June 15, 1970; four brothers, Joseph, Andrew, Michael and John Anthony; and three sisters, Rose and Margaret Stanko and Pauline Pepke. Friends will be received at the MARSHALL MARRA FUNERAL HOME, 216 Chess St., Monongahela (724-258-6767), from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. Friday, February 22. Services will be held in Grace Lutheran Church on Saturday, February 23, at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Raymond Ursin officiating. Interment will follow in Taylor Cemetery, Forward Township.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Ada D. Graham
Elizabeth

Ada D. "Deannie" Graham, 70, of Elizabeth, died Thursday, February 21, 2008, in Jefferson Regional Medical Center, Jefferson Hills. She was born July 8, 1937, in Clairton, a daughter of the late Ralph and Ada Pearl Trainer Neal. She is survived by her husband of 50 years, William H. Graham Sr.; two daughters, Margaret Graham, of McKeesport, and Dineen (Scott) Billick, of Elizabeth; two sons, William H. Graham Jr., of Panama City, Fla., and David R. Graham, of Elizabeth; one grandson and two granddaughters, Scott P. Billick and Nicole L. Billick, both of Elizabeth, and Johanna McCall, of Orlando, Fla.; one great-granddaughter, Alexis Kucsmas, of Orlando; three sisters, Janet O'Neil, of Elizabeth, Linda (Colin) McCalla, of Steubenville, Ohio, and Barbara Harold, of Kansas; one brother, Clifford Neal, of McKeesport; and nieces and nephews. Friends will be received Saturday, February 23, from 2 to 4 and 7 to 9 p.m. at the PAUL E. BEKAVAC FUNERAL HOME, 221 Second St., Elizabeth. A funeral service will be held Sunday, February 24, at 1:30 p.m. in the funeral home with the Rev. Thomas Carr officiating. Burial will be in Round Hill Cemetery, Elizabeth Township. www.bekavacfuneralhome.com.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Doris M. Gross
Liberty Borough

Doris M. Gross, 75, of Liberty Borough, died Wednesday, February 20, 2008, at Arden Court in Jefferson Hills. Born August 10, 1932, in McKeesport, she was the daughter of the late Andrew and Mary Perkoski Petro. Married to her husband for 52 years, Doris was the devoted wife of the late Robert F. Gross, who passed away November 15, 2007. She was a very active member of St. Mark Parish and its Christian Mothers and Ladies of Charity. Doris served as a Eucharistic Minister, sang in the church choir, and was a regular volunteer at church functions. Her service and social memberships included the Girl Scouts of Southwestern PA, Junior Hospital Committee of UPMC McKeesport Hospital and the Liberty Borough Senior Citizens. Doris was a loving wife and mother, a very proud "Grandma" and a woman of deep faith. She is survived by her children, Bobbie (Jim) Campbell, of Liberty Borough, Terrie (Stan) Wrona, of Rostraver Township, and Mary Lu (Ken) Gribschaw, of Fairlawn, Ohio; grandchildren, Lindsay (Matt) Dudek, Jamie Campbell, Josh, Nathaniel and Kaitlyn Wrona, and Aaron and Aidan Gribschaw; and nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents and husband, she was preceded in death by her son, Dennis William Gross; and her brother, Robert Petro. Family and friends will be received from 1 to 3 and 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, February 22, at WILLIG FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES, 220 Ninth Ave., McKeesport (412-664-9178). A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated Saturday, February 23, at 9:30 a.m. in the Liberty Borough Worship Site of St. Mark Parish. Interment will follow beside her beloved husband in New St. Joseph Cemetery, North Versailles. Memorial contributions are suggested to the St. Mark Parish Music Ministry.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

James F. Harmon
Perryopolis

James Francis Harmon, 75, of Perryopolis, Pa., peacefully entered eternal life on Tuesday, February 19, 2008, at UPMC Hospital. He was born on June 16, 1932, in Pittsburgh, Pa., the son of the late Francis and Grace Darnell Harmon. James was a veteran of the United States Navy, who served his country during the Korean Conflict. He was a steamfitter by trade and was a 55-year member of the Steamfitters Local Union 449. Cherishing his memory is his faithful wife of 21 years, Constance Elaine Harmon; and daughter, Rebecca Harmon, of Perryopolis; his son, Timothy Harmon, of Penn Hills; his step-daughter, Darlene Schulz, of Pittsburgh; his niece, Kathy Fulmer Palomicio, of Weirton, W.Va.; and his nephew, Gerry Fulmer, of Weirton, W.Va. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his sister, Shirley Fulmer; and his first wife, Inelda Harmon. Friends and family will be received on Saturday from 2 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. in the JAMES C. STUMP FUNERAL HOME INC., 580 Circle Drive, Belle Vernon/Rostraver Township (724-929-7934), www.jamesstumpfuneralhome.com, where a Funeral Service will be held at 8 p.m. with the Rev. Kent Lighthall officiating. Military Honors will immediately follow the services at the funeral home. Interment for James Francis Harmon, with Military Honors, will be held in the National Cemetery of the Alleghenies, South Pointe, Pa. The date will be set for some time in the spring.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Manuel Lorenzo
Donora

Manuel "Pete" Lorenzo, 70, of Donora, died suddenly in Mon Valley Hospital on Tuesday, February 19, 2008. He was born in Anmore, W.Va., on January 9, 1938, a son of the late Manuel "Pete" and Gia Barbao Lorenzo. He was retired from Penn DOT as a Transportation Construction Inspector 3. Pete was a U.S. Army veteran, a member of Our Lady of the Valley Parish in Donora, the Donora Spanish Club, American Croatian Citizens Club of Donora, a member and union officer of AFSCME Local Union No. 2249, Chief Steward of Local Union No. 2249, and vice president on Council 13 in Harrisburg. He is survived by his wife of 41 years, Emily Cooper Lorenzo; two sons, Pete Lorenzo and Melissa, and Eric L Lorenzo and Marie, both of Donora; four grandchildren, Jillian, Madison, Emma and Adam; and numerous cousins. Friends will be received Friday, February 22, from 1 to 4 and 6 to 9 p.m. at the JAMES A. RABE FUNERAL HOME INC., 701 Thompson Ave., Donora (724-379-9020), where a blessing service will be held Saturday, February 23, at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Michael Yaksick officiating. Interment will follow in Mon Valley Memorial Park, Donora. Memorials may be made in Mr. Lorenzo's name to the Donora Public Library or the Mon Valley Youth and Teens Center in Donora. Family and friends may view the obituary and offer on-line condolences at www.rabefuneralhome.com.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

POLICE LOG

Southwest Regional

■ Matthew Edward Gajan, 20, of 467 Spring St., Richeyville, and a 13-year-old North Belle Vernon juvenile were each cited for criminal mischief and institutional vandalism after allegedly driving a Honda dirt bike on the grass hillside of Brewer Stadium, located on the corner at Vernon and Columbus streets in Belle Vernon, police reported.

The incident allegedly occurred 2:30 p.m. Feb. 9, according to police.

■ Police are investigating an attempted break-in at the home of Cheryl C. Terrell, 59, of 224 Dally Road, Coal Center, that was reported 10:11 p.m. Wednesday.

Police said actors attempted to enter a basement window and the back door, but were unsuccessful.

Anyone with information is asked to contact Southwest Regional Police at (724) 929-8484.

Monongahela

■ William Jarvis, of 239 Vine St., Monongahela, reported to police that sometime from Saturday to Tuesday someone apparently attempted to hot wire his vehicle to steal it. He said the ignition and dashboard were damaged.

MAGISTERIAL DISTRICT COURT

The following cases were brought before Magisterial District Judge Mark Wilson, of Monongahela, this week:

■ John Gnora, 36, of 520 Washington Ave., Charleroi, was charged with simple assault, resisting arrest, harassment and disorderly conduct Feb. 10 by Donora police. The simple assault and harassment charges were withdrawn and the other charges were waived to court.

■ Anthony Pelligrino, 52, of 820 Marne Ave., Apt. 2, Monongahela, was charged with disorderly conduct Jan. 4 by Monongahela police. The case was dismissed.

■ Jillian Dence Brown, 23, of 1222 McKean Ave., Donora, was charged with theft, access device fraud and receiving stolen property Jan. 3 by Donora police. The case was dismissed because the officer failed to appear.

■ Stephanie Quann, 42, of 1130 McKean Ave., Donora, was charged with disorderly conduct Jan. 18 by Donora police. The case was dismissed because the officer failed to appear.

■ Perri Youngblood, 39, of 317 Thompson Ave., Donora, was charged with harassment Jan. 7 by Donora police. The case was dismissed because the officer and the victim failed to appear.

■ Daryl Eugene Carpenter, 57, of 708 Sixth St., Monessen, was charged with possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia Jan. 26 by Donora police. The charges were held for court.

■ Paula M. Sharkey, 41, of 5017 Orchard Ave., Bethel Park, was charged with possession of a controlled substance, possession of drug paraphernalia and traffic violations Jan. 26 by Donora police. The charges were held for court.

■ Eric Cook, 31, of 508 Market St., Donora, was charged with two counts of DUI and traffic violations Jan. 18 by Carroll Township police. The case was waived to court.

■ Derek Hague, 19, of 727 Stockdale Ave., Monongahela, was charged with possession of a controlled substance possession of drug paraphernalia, DUI and traffic violations Oct. 14 by Carroll Township police. The charges were withdrawn and he pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct.

■ Sheila Urwin, 47, of Dunlevy, was charged with possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia Jan. 12 by Donora police. The charges were held for court.

■ Joey Leroy Barton, 37, of 560 McKean Ave., Apt. 4, Donora, was charged with access device fraud, theft and receiving stolen property Jan. 4 by Donora police. The charges were held for court.

■ Veronica Gilmore, 46, of Sinclair St., McKeesport, was charged with harassment in November 2007 by a private party. The case was dismissed because the victim chose not to prosecute.

■ Tina M. Welch, 39, of 106 Teeple Ave., Donora, was charged with criminal mischief Dec. 7 by Donora police. The charge was dismissed because the victim failed to appear.

■ Mecca Reddick, 33, of 533 Park Ave., Monongahela, was charged with DUI, improper child restraints, driving while privileges suspended, careless driving, restrictions on alcoholic beverages, endangering the welfare of another and reckless endangering Jan. 4 by Carroll Township police. The careless driving, restrictions on alcoholic beverages and recklessly endangering charges were withdrawn. The other charges were waived to court.

■ Mecca Reddick, 33, of 533 Park Ave., Monongahela, was charged with obstruction of law and disorderly conduct Dec. 12 by Carroll Township police. The charges were held for court.

■ Deborah Soroka, 37, of 208 Walnut St., Monongahela, was charged with harassment Jan. 7 by Monongahela police. She was found guilty.

■ Gary Barbour II, 26, of Pittsburgh, was charged with theft Jan. 29 by Carroll Township police and receiving stolen property Jan. 29 by Monongahela police. The charges were held for court.

■ Brandi Jo Estock, 26, of 635 Third St., Donora, was charged with DUI, possession of a controlled substance, manufacture of a controlled substance and criminal use of a communication facility. The DUI charge was held for court and the other charges were dismissed.

■ Michael Chaney, 18, of 417 Prospect Ave., Charleroi, was charged with retail theft Dec. 10 by Donora police. He was found guilty.

Francis "Tom" Post

Mere words are inadequate to express our gratitude. To each and everyone who has helped us through these days of sorrow with beautiful flowers, masses, words of sympathy and deeds of infinite kindness, we can only say, "Thank You So Much". Also, thanks to Father David Nazimek, Ambulance Service & Firemen, and all who helped in any way.

The Francis "Tom" Post Family

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NEWS

TODAY IN HISTORY

FEBRUARY 22

Today is Friday, Feb. 22, the 53rd day of 2008. There are 313 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight:

On Feb. 22, 1732, the first president of the United States, George Washington, was born at his parents' plantation in the Virginia Colony.

On this date:

■ In 1819, Spain agreed to cede Florida to the United States under the Adams-Onis Treaty.

■ In 1862, Jefferson Davis, already the provisional president of the Confederacy, was inaugurated for a six-year term as president following his election the previous November.

■ In 1865, Tennessee adopted a new constitution that included the abolition of slavery.

■ In 1889, President Cleveland signed an omnibus bill to admit the Dakotas, Montana and Washington state to the Union.

■ In 1892, "Lady Windermere's Fan" by Oscar Wilde was first performed, at London's St. James' Theater.

■ In 1924, President Coolidge delivered the first radio broadcast from the White House as he addressed the country over 42 stations.

■ In 1935, it became illegal for airplanes to fly over the White House.

■ In 1967, more than 25,000 U.S. and South Vietnamese troops launched Operation Junction City, aimed at smashing a Vietcong stronghold near the Cambodian border.

■ In 1973, the United States and China agreed to establish liaison offices.

■ In 1980, the U.S. Olympic hockey team upset the Soviets at Lake Placid, N.Y., 4-3. (The U.S. team went on to win the gold medal.)

■ **Ten years ago**: Abraham A. Ribicoff, the former Connecticut governor and senator who served as President Kennedy's secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, died in Riverdale, N.Y., at age 87. The Czech Republic defeated Russia 1-0 to win men's hockey as the Nagano Winter Olympics came to a close.

■ **Five years ago**: Jesica Santillan, the teenager who'd survived a botched heart-lung transplant long enough to get a second set of donated organs, died two days after the second transplant at Duke University Medical Center in North Carolina.

■ **One year ago**: Britain's Ministry of Defense announced that Prince Harry, a second lieutenant in the British army, would be deployed to Iraq. (Officials later reversed the decision because of insurgent threats.) The U.N. nuclear watchdog agency said Iran had ignored a Security Council ultimatum to freeze uranium enrichment, and instead had expanded its program by setting up hundreds of centrifuges.

Associated Press

Democratic presidential hopefuls, Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., left, and Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., shake hands at the end of the Democratic presidential debate in Austin, Texas, on Thursday.

Obama, Clinton square off again

Her back against the wall, Clinton opted for graciousness over criticism in latest campaign debate.

By BETH FOUHY
Associated Press Writer

AUSTIN, Texas — Hillary Clinton, the front-runner no more, sought to bury Barack Obama, but also to praise him in their latest campaign debate and revive her own White House hopes in the process.

"No matter what happens in this contest — and I am honored, I am honored to be here with Barack Obama," she said at the conclusion of the 90-minute forum.

"Whatever happens, we're going to be fine."

It was an unexpectedly gracious moment in a debate that was supposed to be a game changer for Clinton in the run-up to crucial primaries in Texas and Ohio March 4.

After losing 11 straight contests to Obama in a race now clearly breaking his way, the former first lady chose the high road and even delivered what sounded to many like the dress rehearsal for a campaign valedictory address.

Her remarks were "almost a quasi-concession speech," said Texas state Rep. Rafael Anchia, who backs Obama.

Clinton doubtless didn't intend her words to be taken that way.

In a round of television appearances Wednesday morning, Clinton said her remarks were intended as "a recognition that both of us are on the brink of historic change.

"I'm very proud that we have the two of us in this contest seeking the Democratic nomination, hoping to become our next president," she said on CBS's "The Early Show." She is seeking to be the first woman president, and Obama the first black president.

Clinton worked hard during the debate to draw contrasts with Obama on issues, pressing her argument that Obama's health care reform proposal would leave 15 million people uninsured. Obama has countered that Clinton's plan, which requires everyone to carry insurance, would force people to purchase coverage they can't afford.

But otherwise, Clinton steered away from any hard-hitting criticism of her rival. She agreed with him on most matters raised in the debate, including immigration policy and fixing the economy.

She let pass a statement that he would be willing to meet with new Cuban leader Raul Castro "without precondition" after hammering him for making a similar comment in another debate last summer.

Clinton even sidestepped a question of whether the Illinois senator is ready to be commander in chief — an argument she makes clearly and forcefully before most campaign audiences.

"I will leave that for voters to decide," Clinton said, opening an opportunity for her rival.

"I wouldn't be running if I didn't think I was prepared to be commander in chief," Obama responded simply — winning back what could have been a breakthrough moment for the New York senator.

Obama, for his part, controlled the pace of the evening — calmly going toe to toe on issues with Clinton while forcefully challenging her argument that he is all promise and no results.

"The implication is that the people who've been voting for me or involved in my campaign are somehow delusional," Obama said. "The thinking is that somehow, they've been duped and they're going to see the reality of things."

Clinton's only attempt to get tough was a crack about Obama borrowing lines from Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick — an argument pressed by her campaign this week, with little apparent effect.

McCain's image, candidacy threatened

He says *The New York Times* has launched a "smear campaign" against him.

By LIZ SIDOTI
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — John McCain sought to minimize damage to his man-of-character image and his presidential hopes Thursday, vigorously denying and denouncing a newspaper report suggesting an improper relationship with a female lobbyist.

"It's not true," the likely Republican nominee said of the report that implied a romantic link with telecommunications lobbyist Vicki Iseman and suggested McCain pushed legislation that would have benefited her clients.

"At no time have I ever done anything that would betray the public trust," said McCain, a four-term Arizona senator and a hero of the Vietnam War. He described the lobbyist as a friend.

McCain and his wife, standing together at a news conference, said they were disappointed that *The New York Times* ran its page one article, and his campaign referred to a "smear campaign" and "gutter politics" in the midst of the presidential race.

The allegations in the Thursday report in *The Times* — and a story in *The Washington Post* — contradict core themes of McCain's campaign — that he would bring honor and integrity to the White House as well as a record of changing business-as-usual Washington ways.

Even the suggestion of marital impropriety — though rejected by both McCain and his wife — would seem to risk further damaging his acrimonious relationship with the social conservatives whose support he desperately needs in the general election campaign against a fired-up Democratic Party.

THE WORLD BRIEFLY

Satellite shoot gets rave reviews

WASHINGTON (AP) — The stunning image of a Navy missile streaking into outer space at 6,000 mph to obliterate an orbiting spy satellite boosts the credibility of missile-defense advocates.

Yet questions remain whether that success could be duplicated against a surprise, real-world attack.

The idea, whether the target is an unarmed satellite or an enemy missile, is basically the same: fire a guided missile into the path of the moving target and smash it to bits by the force of impact.

In theory, the collision could render harmless even a nuclear- or chemical-armed missile, an idea that evolved from President Reagan's "star wars" program of the 1980s.

In the case of the spy satellite, a Navy SM-3 missile launched from a cruiser in the Pacific not only hit the U.S. satellite but apparently struck precisely where its operators had aimed: a titanium-encased tank of fuel that officials said could pose a health hazard to humans on re-entry.

Henry Cooper, who was the Pentagon's "star wars" chief from 1990-93, said the outcome bodes well for the Navy and prospects for adding to its missile defense repertoire.

U.S. warns Serbs on embassy attack

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States bluntly warned Serbia against inciting violence after an angry mob protesting the independence of the former Serbian province of Kosovo stormed and set fire to the U.S. Embassy in Belgrade on Thursday.

The attack played out live on television screens around the world and the Bush administration reacted with unusual sharpness, denouncing Serb authorities for failing to protect the compound from rioters who torched part of its main office building, causing undetermined damage and possibly the death of one person whose charred body was later found.

"Our embassy was attacked by thugs," White House press secretary Dana Perino told reporters aboard Air Force One as President Bush and Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice returned from a trip to Africa. "We have made known to the Serbian government our concern and displeasure that their police force did not prevent this incident."

From the plane, Rice received updates as the assault unfolded and ordered the third-ranking U.S. diplomat, Nicholas Burns, to tell the Serbs that the attack was unacceptable, that their protection of the embassy was sorely lacking and that they must stop anything that might incite violent protests over the U.S. recognition of Kosovo's independence.

Gates still hopes for Iraq drawdown

ABOARD A MILITARY AIRCRAFT (AP) — Defense Secretary Robert Gates said today he hopes to be able to continue to reduce the number of U.S. troops in Iraq over the next 10 months, even as he and his military commanders lean toward a pause in troop cuts in July.

Gates, who is traveling to Australia for defense and diplomatic meetings, told reporters traveling with him that he thinks a "brief pause" to evaluate the security situation in Iraq "is probably necessary in order to be able to assess the pacing of any subsequent drawdowns."

While Gates still would not say how long a brief interruption in troop cuts might be, his comments signaled that reductions could begin again before the end of the year.

"I think my hope still is that we will be able to further draw down our troops in Iraq over the course of the next 10 to 12 months," he said.

The defense secretary's comments came as he prepared for talks with new Australian government leaders who campaigned on a vow to pull roughly 550 of their combat troops out of Iraq.

'PENNSYLVANIA CASH 5'

Today's jackpot worth at least $400,000

HARRISBURG (AP) — Today's "Pennsylvania Cash 5" jackpot will be worth at least $400,000 because no player matched the five winning numbers drawn in Thursday's game.

Lottery officials said 81 players matched four numbers and won $318.50 each; 3,536 players matched three numbers and won $12 each; and 46,655 players matched two numbers and won $1 each.

The winning numbers drawn Thursday in the "Pennsylvania Cash 5" game were: 09-13-18-41-43.

The Valley Independent

LOTTERY RESULTS

PENNSYLVANIA DAILY NUMBERS

THURSDAY, FEB. 21

DAY PICK 3:	6-7-9
NIGHT PICK 3:	7-2-2
DAY PICK BIG 4:	4-0-0-1
NIGHT PICK BIG 4:	5-7-2-4
TREASURE HUNT:	7-9-15-16-18
MIX & MATCH:	2-6-1-4-7
CASH 5:	9-13-18-41-43

OHIO DAILY NUMBERS

THURSDAY, FEB. 21

DAY PICK 3:	4-1-6
NIGHT PICK 3:	7-0-2
DAY PICK 4:	2-2-9-7
NIGHT PICK 4:	6-9-4-3
ROLLING CASH 5:	5-8-17-20-26

WEST VIRGINIA DAILY NUMBERS

THURSDAY, FEB. 21

DAILY 3:	1-1-4
DAILY 4:	6-8-1-0
CASH 25:	4-10-12-14-22-25

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of winning numbers and prize payouts. In the event of a discrepancy, the official and certified files maintained by the Pennsylvania Lottery's Security Office shall prevail.

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OUR OPINION

Harhai's City Hall plan flawed

MONESSEN COUNCILMAN John Harhai's plan to transform the nearly-vacant Mon Valley Health Center into a new City Hall makes sense for a variety of reasons.

But the idea that the city should pay rent to the Mon Valley Health and Welfare Authority for using space in the health center complex is, in a word, insane.

As things now stand, Monessen's municipal offices are located in an antiquated building with, as Harhai pointed out at Wednesday night's council meeting, a long list of problems.

The cash-strapped city already foolishly invested money to put a new roof on a structure whose other shortcomings would cost more to fix than the building is worth.

Those costly renovations would be avoided, of course, if the city found a new home for its various governmental offices.

And what better spot exists for that purpose than the Health Center, a relatively modern complex that has more than enough space to accommodate municipal offices?

Before Harhai resurrected the concept Wednesday, Mayor Anthony Petaccia and former Councilwomen Mary Jo Smith both endorsed the idea of moving City Hall to the Health Center.

But here's where Harhai's otherwise solid idea goes haywire: He proposed that the city pay the authority $270,00 — $54,000 per year for the next five years — for using space in the health center. The city, under Harhai's plan, would assume ownership of the building at the end of that five-year period.

What Harhai obviously forgot is that the owners of the health center are the taxpayers — the same people who own the city and, you guessed it, City Hall.

Why in the world should the taxpayers who own City Hall charge themselves for the privilege of using the Health Center — another building they own?

That would be like the city charging its Street Department for using the garage complex off Parente Boulevard.

Rather than making such an outrageous reach into taxpayers' pockets, the city should move to abolish the authority — an agency that has successfully fulfilled its original mission — and lay claim to its various possessions, including the health center complex, a nearby building and more than $1 million worth of cash reserves.

That would provide the city with a viable replacement for its deteriorating municipal building and an influx of much-needed cash.

It also would give the city extra office space - space that could be rented to private individuals, organizations or businesses to provide a much-needed new revenue stream for the city.

Harhai should be commended for addressing a situation others in city government have ignored for far too long — the need to replace City Hall.

And his plan to utilize the Health Center for that purpose is right on target.

It just needs a little tweaking so it better benefits Monessen's taxpayers.

How to reach us

The Valley Independent welcomes the input of our readers. Letters, e-mails and faxes must be signed and should include an address and daytime telephone number so the content of the message can be verified. (Phone numbers will not be published.)

Send your comments:

— By mail to Your Opinion, *The Valley Independent,* Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa. 15062.

— By e-mail to valley@tribweb.com

— By fax to (724) 684-2603.

All messages are subject to editing for clarification, brevity and libel. Messages should be kept to 300 words. (No poetry, please.)

While letters usually are published in order of submission, those concerning timely local issues are given priority.

Rule of law

Charley **REESE**

President Bush is correct to refer to the proposed military trials of the six alleged terrorists as similar to the Nuremberg trials of several Nazis. In both cases, the law is made a farce.

In the case of the Nazis, if the Allies wanted vengeance, and they did, they should have rounded up the Nazi leadership and shot them. That, at least, would have been an honest act of vengeance. Instead, they set up a propaganda farce at Nuremberg and pretended they were going to provide a fair trial to the defendants.

The trouble was, the Nazis were German citizens, and they had not violated any laws of Germany, since the criminal government had twisted the laws, as all criminal governments do, to fit its acts. The Allies, to remedy that, dreamed up some laws that had hitherto not existed. They said launching a war of aggression was a crime. If that's the case, George W. Bush had better stay out of the reach of any international tribunal, because that's exactly what he did in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Then they said there was such a thing as a crime against humanity. Since humanity encompasses the whole human race, and since no Nazi crime was ever committed beyond the reach of the German army, which was confined to Europe, and for a short time, North Africa, obviously the Nazis were not guilty of that. Most historians say the Germans killed about 12 million people, including the Jews in the Holocaust. Since 55 million people died in the war, who killed the other 43 million? I suppose they could be called "collateral damage."

All I'm saying is it was a mistake to disguise vengeance in the robes of the law. Doing so made a farce of the rule of law, and we are paying for it today. We are now stuck with an international tribunal free to charge anyone with "crimes against humanity" on a purely arbitrary basis. Practically, that means any petty leader unfortunate enough to lose a war can find himself on trial. Some Israeli leaders, for example, are afraid to travel in Europe, lest they be arrested and charged with war crimes.

As for the alleged terrorists, Bush has turned a simple matter into another legal farce. If these men are prisoners of war, they are entitled to the protection of the Geneva Conventions. If they are criminals (and the attacks on New York and Washington were certainly crimes under American law), they are entitled to the protection of the Constitution. This is the option Bush should have chosen, because we try, convict and execute criminals with the protection of the Constitution on a regular basis. Providing constitutional rights does not mean giving someone a free pass.

So Bush is going to try these men as "enemy combatants" by a military tribunal, which will not even give them the protection of the Uniform Code of Military Justice. It will be another legal farce. They will be convicted. They will be executed. And the rule of law, already battered in America, will suffer another wound.

There are some lines in a play in which a man is cautioned against cutting

As for the alleged terrorists, Bush has turned a simple matter into another legal farce.

down the protection of the law to get at his enemies. "I would cut down a whole forest to get at my enemies," he says. "Oh, and when they come for you, where will you hide?" replies the other man.

That's the point. When we uphold the rule of law, we are acting in our self-interest, not in the interest of criminals or terrorists. We can nail them with the rule of law, but if we destroy the rule of law, we make ourselves vulnerable to injustice. It's not just a terrorist who can be arrested and held incommunicado for an indefinite period of time. It's anybody the government thinks is a terrorist.

The rule of law is all that stands between us and the worst kind of government by the worst kind of people.

Write to Charley Reese at P.O. Box 2446, Orlando, FL 32802.

ARIAIL ©2005 THE STATE 3-20
...LET HIM SPEAK NOW OR FOREVER HOLD HIS PEACE —
YOO-HOO!
HEY, BABY — IT'S ME, HUCK! REMEMBER THAT NIGHT IN IOWA ?...
McC

Republicans and the conservative movement

William **RUSHER**

In talking about politics, people often move back and forth quite casually between references to "the Republican Party" and to "the conservative movement." Sometimes they are treated as almost synonymous, and, then again, they may be regarded as very different things — almost rivals. Worst of all, many people seem to consider them a single big ball of wax, sharing the characteristics of both the party and the movement. For the sake of clarity, let us analyze them and distinguish them from one another.

The Republican Party is the much older of the two, having been founded in 1854 and fielded presidential and lesser candidates in every election since. The conservative movement, which is often and quite rightly defined more precisely as the "modern American conservative movement," didn't get under way, as a self-aware entity, until a century later, over a period of several years in the early 1950s. Among its early manifestations were the publication of Russell Kirk's "The Conservative Mind" in 1953 and the launching of National Review by Bill Buckley in 1955. There had been earlier manifestations of conservative opinions in American politics right from the start, but they rarely added up to a coherent body of related thoughts, and none managed to survive over a significant period of time.

The Democratic Party, of course, was even older, having emerged from the congeries of political alliances that characterized the nation's first quarter-century or so. And there have been leftist movements of one sort or another in American politics almost from the start. By the end of the 19th century, those of a socialist stripe were most prominent, and they have remained so ever since.

The two political parties have, at one time or another, encouraged many of these movements to seek fulfillment in supporting them. (Before the Civil War, for example, the Democratic Party was, in addition to much else, the political instrument of the slaveholding interests.) From their start — but, above all, from the launching of Franklin Roosevelt's New Deal onward — the leftist movements (to the extent that they have not founded parties of their own) have tended to support the Democratic Party. And from its inception the conservative movement has found its home with the Republicans.

What, exactly, is the relationship of the Republican Party to the conservative movement? I have found it useful to think of the Republican Party as a bottle, and the conservative movement as the wine it contains.

The bottle has little significance on its own; its importance lies in its contents. It is the vehicle for its contents, which could not maintain or promote themselves on their own. The party and the movement, in other words, need each other badly.

It is important to note, however, that the symbiosis between a particular party and a particular political movement doesn't necessarily last forever. The party can repudiate the movement, or the movement can walk out of the party — as the Democrats ultimately rejected slavery, and the Progressives in 1912 walked out of the Republican Party.

At the moment, however, the Republican Party and the conservative movement still seem comfortably wedded. The marriage began in 1964, with the party's nomination of Barry Goldwater for president, and has lasted ever since. Many analysts assumed that the relatively liberal wing of the GOP would revive after Goldwater's crushing defeat and resume control of the party. But this never happened: Nixon's nomination in 1968 resulted from a decision by the conservative movement (albeit a bad one), and Reagan's election and re-election simply nailed down the alliance. Today, practically all Republican candidates proclaim their conservatism, and almost all conservative leaders vow their allegiance to the Republican Party. It has been a remarkably fruitful union.

William Rusher is a Distinguished Fellow of the Claremont Institute for the Study of Statesmanship and Political Philosophy.

NEWS

Non-tax filers risk forfeiting rebates

People who don't file a 2007 tax return won't get economic stimulus checks of $300 or more.

By THOMAS OLSON
For The Valley Independent
tolson@tribweb.com

If that tax-rebate check isn't in the mail, it might be your own fault.

Hundreds of thousands of lower-income people in Pennsylvania who normally don't have to file income tax returns will forfeit those economic stimulus checks of $300 or more if they don't file a 2007 tax return.

Experts say many folks, especially seniors, don't know about the requirement and face headaches, if not hardship, to prepare and file a tax return.

"I have to file, even though I haven't filed taxes since I retired in 1997?" said a surprised Nettie Pelton, 58, of Beltzhoover, who gets a $4,800 annual pension after working 21 years at a Downtown hotel.

"I don't get around very good, but I think you can get forms down at the federal building," said Pelton, who receives Social Security disability checks. "I suppose I could get there on the subway, or a family member could come get me."

Beginning in May, the government will start mailing out "economic stimulus checks" to some 130 million Americans in hopes they will spend the money and help boost the nation's sputtering economy. Anyone earning at least $3,000 a year is eligible to receive one. The checks, also called tax rebates, will give single people between $300 and $600 and married couples between $600 and $1,200.

That is, provided they file a 2007 federal income tax return by the April 15 deadline.

Anyone with taxable income of $8,750 or more should be accustomed to filing a tax return. But those who make between $3,000 and $8,749 could miss the rebate boat.

"There are people who have never ever filed a tax return, or at least haven't filed for years," said Desiree Hung, associate state director for federal advocacy for AARP Pennsylvania, Harrisburg.

"It's going to be at least a challenge for seniors who are not Internet savvy or not very mobile," said Hung.

How many fall into the group of non-filers is a tough estimate. Nationwide, it's between 10 million and 20 million, IRS acting commissioner Linda Stiff said last week. The IRS has no estimate of the Pennsylvania count.

But according to latest figures from the state Department of Revenue, some 787,000 Pennsylvania residents or married couples had taxable income in 2005 between $3,000 and $8,999.

"I think there's going to be problems because a lot of these (non-filers) are people who are retired and out of the system to an extent," said Paul Lodico, co-coordinator for the Mon Valley Unemployed Committee, a Homestead advocacy group.

"We're hoping the media will spread the word," said David Stewart, IRS spokesman in the Philadelphia office. He said his agency, the Social Security Administration and the Department of Veterans Affairs are "trying to be very creative to find a way to get this message out."

Traditional fee-based tax preparers are stepping up efforts to reach non-filers who now need to do tax returns to get their rebates. Jackson Hewitt Tax Service, for instance, is alerting this group via direct mail, tag lines in commercials and with window signs at their 6,500 offices, including about 30 in this region.

Many social-service and community groups offer tax-preparation assistance free of charge. They include AARP and ACORN (Association of Community Organizations for Reform Now). The United Way of Allegheny County operates a clearinghouse of tax-prep sites.

"The government has to have a name and address to send these checks," said Lodico. "So how do they verify that? Income taxes."

Musician sings from rooftop for charity

Former fiddler for The Povertyneck Hillbillies is raising money for multiple sclerosis.

By MARK HOFMANN
For The Valley Independent
mhofmann@tribweb.com

Chris Higbee, former fiddler for The Povertyneck Hillbillies, will spend 72 hours on the roof of Moose Lodge 92 to raise money for the Multiple Sclerosis Foundation.

Higbee got involved after a member of the Moose contacted Mark Vinsick, a guitarist with the newly formed Chris Higbee Project, and Vinsick contacted Higbee.

"It's for a good cause. I had a free weekend, and I love to camp, so I thought, 'What the heck?' " Higbee said before he climbed onto the roof Wednesday night with his guitar, some clothing and 500 CDs, which he will autograph and hand out to anyone who stops at the Moose to make a donation.

"I hope I get a lot of visitors."

Higbee said he plans to spend his time on the roof writing songs and playing music on the guitar.

When he comes down Saturday night, he'll spend an hour as a celebrity bartender, then play an acoustic set for Moose members and guests.

"I'm hoping to write a song while on the roof and then perform it on Saturday," Higbee said.

The PovertyNeck Hillbillies broke up last month after being together seven years.

The rooftop marathon is part of the Ugliest Bartender Contest to help fight multiple sclerosis.

Jeff Martinak, governor for Moose Lodge 92, said the lodge raised more than $5,000 last year.

Martinak said that donations poured in last year when Scott Lytle of Perryopolis took to the roof to spend three days with only a tent, a small heater, an inflatable air mattress and a sleeping bag.

Lytle said he spent the time watching people donate and hearing their support as "motorists constantly honked while passing by on Route 51."

Martinak said a bartender dubbed this year's event "The Fiddler on the Moose."

Mark Hofmann/For The Valley Independent

Chris Higbee, the founder of the Chris Higbee Project, climbs a ladder at the Moose in Perryopolis, where he plans to spend three days on the roof to raise money for multiple sclerosis.

Monessen (FROM PAGE THREE)

council meeting, and said council has a "communication problem of the worst."

He said he thinks council needs to study the plan proposed by Harhai to move City Hall to the Health Center due to the deteriorating conditions of the century-old municipal building.

Amelia Grace pleaded for council to start working together.

"It's time to stop playing games," Grace said. "This is 2008. Just like we voted you in, we can vote you out.

"It's time to make a change. This building is a loss. Anybody in town is supposed to attend our meetings, but they can't.

In other business, council voted to decrease the fees for municipal lien letters from $125 to $75.

City Treasurer Frank Rizzuto also announced that the 2008 city and county real estate tax notices will be mailed next week. He said the city will not accept payments from anyone who comes to the office to pay their taxes without the original statement.

Wecht (FROM PAGE THREE)

"incidental meals."

"You knew how to spell incidental, didn't you? It's spelled i-n-c-i-d-e-n-t-a-l," Wilson said. "It isn't spelled l-i-m-o, is it?"

"No," responded Young, a key government witness who is testifying with immunity from prosecution.

Wecht, 76, of Squirrel Hill, is accused of using his public office for private gain.

Federal prosecutors contend he committed multiple counts of mail and wire fraud by billing clients for $90 airport rides from "First Class Limousine" in Homestead when he really was chauffeured by deputy coroners in his county-owned car. They say he systematically inflated the cost of airfare when billing clients of his private business, Cyril H. Wecht and Pathology Associates.

For instance, Wilson said Wecht bilked the Church of Scientology out of nearly $700 in trumped up airfare while collecting nearly $80,000 in consultation fees.

Wilson continued bolstering the government's contention that Wecht was busy earning money from private clients while he was at the county morgue.

Wilson produced scores of ledger entries, invoices and appointment entries pertaining to private cases that Young verified she produced while working at the coroner's office and from which Wecht made hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Wilson highlighted several examples showing Wecht billed private clients for the time they spent meeting with him at the coroner's office.

"That's private work performed in the coroner's office for which you are later billing private clients from the coroner's office?" Wilson asked.

"Yes," Young said.

Day 14 of the trial before U.S. District Arthur J. Schwab is scheduled to resume Monday. Young is expected to return to the stand.

Ideas sought for future of Mayview property

The psychiatric hospital now on the site is due to close later this year.

By DAVID M. BROWN
For The Valley Independent
dbrown@tribweb.com

The official effort began Thursday night to determine what becomes of state-owned land and buildings at Mayview State Hospital after the psychiatric hospital closes later this year.

A legislative task force headed by state Sen. John Pippy, R-Moon, and Rep. Nick Kotik, D-McKees Rocks, held its initial meeting to discuss redevelopment prospects for the 330 acres and 42 buildings at the site near heavily traveled Boyce Road in South Fayette. The property is bordered on three sides by Upper St. Clair.

"This hospital will be closing. We want to be prepared for that closing and look to the future to see what we can do to make this a very productive piece of property and productive part of the future of the communities that surround Mayview," Kotik said.

The first meeting was to get organized, Pippy said. Other meetings will follow each four to six weeks, with specific agendas and elements of focus.

The task force is expected to tour the property and facilities at the next session. All meetings will be open to the public and allow public comment.

"I know they are going to sell the property and it's very valuable property, but I want to know what happens to the patients. They should come first," said Maya Patch of Carroll in Washington County, one of about 20 people in the audience.

Pippy said the task force has no role in deciding where patients go. The state Department of Welfare is in the process of determining that.

State officials announced in August that the psychiatric hospital will close by the end of 2008.

Mayview is being shuttered as part of the state's effort to move patients from institutions to community-based settings. Eleven state hospitals have closed since 1979.

Other task force members are: South Fayette Commissioner Deron Gabriel; Ford Thompson, state Department of Public Welfare; Joe Brimmeier Jr., state Department of General Services; Upper St. Clair acting manager Mark Mansfield; South Fayette manager Mike Hoy; Roy Kraynyk, executive director of the Allegheny Land Trust; Chris Goswick, Economic Development Department; Emerald VanBuskirk, executive director of the South West Communities Chamber of Commerce; and Rich Kuppelweiser, chief operating officer at Mayview.

Pippy said the panel could expand if other stakeholders, such as nearby property owners, asked to join. He only wants to keep the size of the group manageable.

Gabriel said his constituents in South Fayette want local control over what happens with property within the township's boundaries. It's hoped that some of the property will be used for small businesses or other taxable entities.

Mansfield noted that Upper St. Clair owns a 470-acre park adjacent to the hospital property and has invested $27.5 million to build a community recreation center. The municipality hopes any redevelopment at Mayview is something complementary to the park, he said.

Pippy said the group has no preconceived ideas about what should happen.

What's happening with your business

Is your business growing, moving or expanding? We want to share your good news with our readers. To submit news, call (724) 684-2634, fax to (724) 684-2603, or email jabramowitz@tribweb.com.

Former House aide sues over his firing

HARRISBURG (AP) — One of seven Democratic House aides forced out in November has filed a wrongful termination lawsuit, saying he was fired as a scapegoat in response to an investigation into salary bonuses given to legislative staffers.

The lawsuit filed by Stephen A.H. Keefer on Tuesday alleges that his firing was engineered to draw attention away from unnamed members of the House of Representatives.

Keefer, of Fredericksburg, was the former information technology director of the caucus. He is seeking lost pay and benefits as well as more than $27,000 in sick pay, vacation and personal time.

Keefer's lawyer, Harry Fenton, did not return a telephone message Thursday. A spokesman for House Democratic Leader Bill DeWeese declined comment.

The attorney general's office has been investigating whether nearly $4 million in bonuses distributed in 2005-06 were illegal rewards for work on political campaigns.

INNOVATIONS IN CTA

Wednesday, February 27
at 5:30 p.m.
Anthony M. Lombardi
Education Conference Center
at Monongahela Valley Hospital

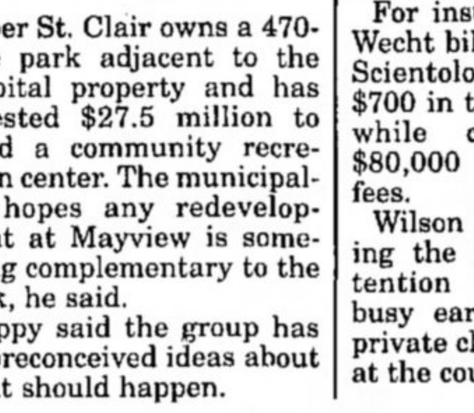
R. G. Krishnan, M.D. and Vinod Chablani, M.D. will present a free community program focusing on new techniques, procedures and equipment in the rapidly expanding fields of radiology and cardiology.

Drs. Chablani and Krishnan will discuss Coronary CTA (a non-invasive virtual cardiac catheterization) using the 64-slice CT scanner.

A variety of radiologic and cardiologic information will be available.

REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED.

CALL 724-258-1234
FOR MORE INFORMATION.



MVH Monongahela Valley Hospital
HEALTH CARE

Diary of a First Street Rambler

Thoughts of baseball interrupted by free haircut

Wednesday, July 9, 1948
Dear Diary,

The baseball season is half over. It looks like a three-way race for the championship between us, the Ozarks and the McMahon Aces.

The Ozarks are always tough and Mushy Moscola has been pitching really good, but I'm also worried about those McMahon Aces 'cause they have a really good team. The Kovie I told you about that plays for them is one of the best pitchers in the league and their catcher, "Babo," whose real name Joe Barruso, is one of the best. Babo's cousin, Tommy Barruso, also plays for them and he's pretty good too, but I think their best player is Lou Reday. Lou is in my grade just the same as all those other guys I named.

Lou is an infielder and the last time we played them, he was playing third base. Lou was playing me deep and near the foul line. I was having a hard time with Kovie's fast ball, so I figured I'd lay down a bunt. I tapped it down real neat and thought for sure I had a base hit, 'cause Lou had to come in and to his left to

Ralph E. **STONE**

field it. Boy, was I ever wrong! He threw me out by a good two steps. He's one of the best infielders in our league. Still, we are tough, too. Buzzy Shimcheck is a whiz at shortstop and Shep chases down those fly balls just like Vince used to do. With Kovie catching and Halfy at second base, Vo says we are solid up the middle. Seemons is batting over .700 and Heads is close to .500. I'm the third best hitter and Scoop Hayes says my average is .375. Yep, it looks like a three-way race.

Well, baseball ain't the only thing I want to talk about today, 'cause, guess what? Today I got a free haircut! Some of us Ramblers were sitting on the steps in front of the Kozy Korner Restaurant when this barber named Lynch comes by. Lynch has a shop on Schoonmaker Avenue between 4th and 5th Street. Anyway, he has this other guy with him. I never saw the other guy before, but we learned that he was from Italy. I think he just came over to America, 'cause he spoke with a strong accent. He said, 'My name is-a John –ny.' Well, I was sitting there on the steps at Kozy Korner with Halfy, Heads and Vo when Lynch says, 'Who wants a free haircut?' Heck, right away I says 'Yeah, I'll take one!' Man oh day, haircuts cost half a buck and my hair was getting pretty long. I figured I'd tell my mom I got a free one, and then maybe she's give me a quarter as a reward for saving her money. I could use that quarter for good stuff like cho cho's, Italian ice or butter pecan ice cream cones!

Right after I said I'd take a free haircut, Halfy, Heads, and Vo all said they'd take one too. But Lynch said, 'Too late. I just need one," and off I went with him and Johnny.

The reason I was gonna' get a free haircut was because ole' Lynch wanted to see if this Italian guy named Johnny could cut hair. If he could, then Lynch would hire him. But, if he couldn't, maybe the poor guy would have to go back to Italy! I guess I was gonna' be the ginny pig. (I don't know how to spell ginny, but that looks right to me and I don't feel like lookin' it up in the dictionary like Miss Conroy says we should.)

I'll bet that you think that Johnny clobbered my hair all up. Well, you're wrong! He gave me one of the best crew cuts I ever had, and old Lynch told him he was hired. I think I'm gonna' come back to Johnny even when I have to pay him half a buck.

Speaking of barbers, I got this other barber story I want to tell you about. It happened one day last summer when me and Half Pint were hanging around downtown going to places like the Five and Ten and Isalys. On our way to Isalys, we passed this other barbershop called "Scratch, the Barber." I didn't know what the heck he was doing, 'cause we weren't getting haircuts that day, but crazy ole' Halfy goes into Scratches' shop while he's cuttin' some other guys hair. Half-Pint reaches up and scratches Scratch on top of his head. Scratch stops cuttin' the guy's hair and says, 'What the h—- you doin' kid?' (I'm not allowed to say that word, but I'll bet you know what I mean!)

Halfy laughs and says, 'Your sign says Scratch the barber, so that's what I did!'

Ole' Scratch just shakes his head and says, 'Get the h—- out of here you crazy kid!'

We laughed all the way to Isaly's, where I got a butter pecan ice cream cone and Halfy got a chocolate walnut.

I wonder what Half-Pint would do if we walked past Lynch the Barber? Heck, he might put a hangman's noose around his neck!

Author's Notes:

Babo, Joe Barruso, lettered in three sports for the '51 Greyhounds. I used to see Babo at the class of '51 reunions, but he's missed our last few get-togethers after moving to Avon Park, Fla.

His cousin, Tom was on the '51 basketball team, and continues to be a regular attendee to all our class reunions. Tom now lives in the South Hills area with his wife, the former Doris Lazzari.

Lou Reday became the regular third baseman on the Greyhound baseball team. He also lettered in basketball. He enjoys his retirement at his Mechanicsburg home with his wife, Dorothy.

Tom Kovach pitched for the Monessen team and followed into the family print business. He married his high school sweetheart, the former Evelyn Sowko. Tom died more than a decade ago.

My free haircut was, I believe, the first of many heads of hair Johnny Talarico cut in Monessen. Following my freebie, John became my regular barber for many years. He eventually opened his own shop on Schoonmaker Avenue. He was there until a fire destroyed his building and several others years ago. Johnny still barbers from his home on Reeves Avenue.

Scratch's shop was on Donner Avenue, near the old Grand Theatre. I never knew Scratch's given name.

Just for the record, I eventually learned how to spell guinea pig. I looked it up in the dictionary!

Next Week: My debut in coaching

Monessen resident Ed Dacko, 76, performs with the Graham Grubb Orchestra and the Frankie Carroll Band, playing at roughly 50 engagements each year.

Veteran musician enjoys staying active with music

Ed Dacko took his first trombone lesson at age 12 and he's been playing ever since.

By COLLEEN POLLOCK
For The Valley Independent

A Monessen senior finds rhythm and harmony performing as a bassist for two area bands.

Ed Dacko took his first trombone lesson at age 12.

More than six decades later, he is plucking out chords on his bass instrument for crowds of music lovers throughout the tri-state area.

Dacko, 76, performs with the Graham Grubb Orchestra and the Frankie Carroll Band, playing at roughly 50 engagements each year.

"I started playing in seventh grade at Monessen High School and went on to study music at Duquesne University," Dacko said of the bass. "And I've just continued on from there."

For 32 years, Dacko taught music in the Bentleyville and Belle Vernon Area school districts.

In 1955, he played trombone for the First Division U.S. Army Band in Germany.

Dacko joined the Greensburg-based orchestra about 20 years ago.

"A friend of mine played the trombone with them and said the band needed a bass player," he recalled.

"I joined the orchestra and that's what I've been playing ever since."

The orchestra, he said, carries on the tradition of such big band performers as Glenn Miller, Tommy Dorsey, Duke Ellington, Les Brown and Benny Goodman.

In fact, Dacko played trombone for two such orchestras fronted by Benny Benack and Larry Faith years ago. Those gigs carried him to venues in such far away locales as San Juan in Puerto Rico, and St. Martin in the Virgin Islands.

He also appeared on the Ed Sullivan Show.

However, Dacko is enjoying his time with the Graham Grubb Orchestra.

"It's all good stuff," said Dacko of the more than 1,100 tunes in the Graham Grubb song book.

"The book is so fat that I have a heck of a time getting it out of the case and onto the stand."

The orchestra features 16 musicians and a vocalist. Collectively, they perform at more than a dozen engagements a year.

"We have so many musicians with over 100 years experience that we practice on the gig," said Dacko.

When he's not on stage with the orchestra, Dacko plays with the Frankie Carroll Band, an Irwin-based group that performs 35 to 40 times a year. He said the band plays mostly ballroom tunes and two-beat music styles.

The Mon Valley will have an opportunity to hear Dacko and the Graham Grubb Orchestra perform from 2 to 4 p.m. on April 6 in the Monessen High School auditorium.

The program will benefit the Friends of the Monessen Library. Tickets are $10 and are available by calling the library at (724) 684-4750.

Meanwhile, Dacko will not skip a beat.

"It's enjoyable," Dacko said of his music career. "I'm pretty busy. I often wonder how I did it when I taught school."

SENIOR CENTER ACTIVITIES

Here's a rundown on activities scheduled at local senior centers next week:

BROWNSVILLE SENIOR CENTER

Monday – 10:30, games and socializing; 12:30, bingo.

Tuesday – 10, ceramics; 10:30, skat and socializing; 1, bingo.

Wednesday – 10:30, games and socializing; 11:15, sit 'n fit exercise; 11:45, wild pill drawing and lucky five drawing, 1, bowling and bingo; Carol Quarrick speaker.

Thursday – 10:30, skat and socializing; 12:30, cards and bingo.

Friday – 11-6, fish fry.

CENTER IN THE WOODS

Monday – 7:30, walking; 9, massage, beauty shop; 10, watercolor guild; 10:30, weight wise; 1, German Club, bridge/500, choir practice; 2, Zumba Gold; 6, weight wise, quilt trunk show, Easter centerpiece.

Tuesday – 7:30, walking; 9, foot appointment, beauty shop, Silver Sneakers; 11, blood pressures, Health Steps in Motion (PEPPI); 1, bingo, bridge/500, dart ball, news and views; Travel Friends-Lion King.

Wednesday – 7:30, walking; 9, beauty shop; 10, Easter sweatshirt; 10:30, Bible study; 1, bridge/500; 3, basket guild.

Thursday – 7:30, walking; 9, beauty shop, Silver Sneakers; 11, PEPPI; 1, bridge/500, bingo, advanced strings jam.

Friday – 7:30, walking club; 9, massage, beauty shop; 1, pysanky, dart ball, Bible study.

DONORA

Monday – 9, walking; 10, advanced line dancing; 11:45, bonus bingo; 1:30, bingo.

Tuesday – 9, walking; 10, exercise class; 11:45, bonus bingo; 1, card club, cards and pokeno.

Wednesday – 9, hairdresser, walking; 10, beginner's line dancing; 11:45, bonus bingo; 1:30, bingo; 2-7, massages by appointment.

Thursday – 9, hairdresser, walking; 10, fitness class; 11:45, bonus bingo; 1, cards and pokeno.

Friday – 9, hairdresser, walking; 11:45, bonus bingo; 1, cards and pokeno.

CENTER ON THE HILL

Monday – 9-2, taxes-appointments required; 10:30, bingo; 11, canasta; 12:45, euchre; 7, evening pinochle.

Tuesday – 10:30, bingo; 11, crafts; 12:45, card club; 2-7:30, massages by appointment; 7, evening euchre.

Wednesday – 9-2, taxes-appointments required; 10:30, blood pressures, bingo, Bible study; 1, jam session.

Thursday – 8, beauty shop; 9:30, video exercise; 10:30, bingo; 11, writing life stories.

Friday – 8, beauty shop; 10:30, bingo, line dancing; Leap Year Sundae Social.

RIVERSIDE PLACE (CHARLEROI)

Monday – Income tax preparations; 9, kitchen bunny craft; 11:30, daily bingo; 1, card party.

Tuesday – Income tax preparations; 11, pre-paid legal services speak on identity theft; 11:30, daily bingo; 1, Valley Seniors.

Wednesday – 11, Silver Sneakers, PrimeTime Health; 11:30, daily bingo; 1, big bingo; 2-7, massages; 5, Zumba Gold.

Thursday – 11:30, daily bingo; 1, darts.

Friday – Income tax preparations; 10:30, Black History celebration; 1, Silver Sneakers; 5, evening of scrapbooking.

MONESSEN

Monday – 1, bingo.

Tuesday – Income tax returns by appointment-(724) 684-6105; 10, crochet class; 1, bingo; 1:45, sit 'n fit; card games, "65"/rummy-dominoes.

Wednesday – 10:30, Bible study with Jim, 12:30, bridge club; card games-"65"rummy/dominoes.

Thursday – Income tax returns by appointment-(724) 684-6105; 11, 500 card club; 11:45, sit 'n fit; card games-"65"/rummy/dominoes; 1:45, sit and fit.

Friday – card games-"65"/rummy/dominoes; dominoes (Mexican Train) morning and afternoon.

MONONGAHELA

Monday – 10:45, sing-along; 11:30, magic bingo; 1, cards.

Tuesday – 9, craft class; beauty shop by appointment; 11:30, magic bingo; 1, cards, darts; 6, card party.

Wednesday – 10:45, dominos; 11:30, magic bingo, devotional; hairdresser by appointment; exercise group after lunch; 1, cards.

Thursday – 11:30, magic bingo; 1, cards; beauty shop by appointment; 7, evening social.

Friday – beauty shop by appointment; 8:30, fried dough; 9-1, Income tax preparation; 11:30, magic bingo; 1, cards; 1:30, line dancing with Frieda; 7:30, Italian Heritage Club.

PERRYOPOLIS

Monday – 8, walking; 9-2, Income tax preparation, poker club, card club; 10, PEPPI exercises; 1, cards and table games, pickin 'n grinning; jigsaw puzzle assembly morning and afternoon.

Tuesday – 8, walking; 10, pinochle, sing-along; 1, pickin' 'n grinning; jig saw puzzle assembling morning and after-noon.

Wednesday –8, walking; 9, big bingo; 9:30, bingo; jigsaw puzzle assembly morning and afternoon.

Thursday – 8, beauty shop, walking; 9, ceramics, blood pressures; 10, PEPPI exercise; jigsaw puzzle assembly morning and afternoon.

Friday – 8, beauty shop, walking, 9:30, bingo; 10, craft of your choice jig-saw puzzle assembly morning and afternoon.

SENIOR CENTER MENUS

Here's a look at lunch menus for local senior citizen centers for next week:

Center in the Woods, Center on the Hill, Charleroi, Donora, Monongahela and Perryopolis

Monday – hamburger with lettuce and tomato
Tuesday – chicken over biscuit
Wednesday – beef stew
Thursday – chicken strip sandwich
Friday – fish 'n chips

Monessen and West Newton

Monday – meatloaf in beef broth
Tuesday – rigatoni with meat sauce
Wednesday – veal bird with stuffing in gravy
Thursday – sliced roast beef with gravy
Friday – breaded fish

Bucs eye a turnaround

After 15 seasons of losing baseball, the Pirates' front office feels the team can finally be a winner.. 2B

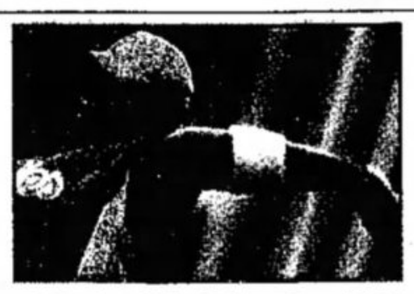
Valley SPORTS

Unmatched in Match Play

No. 1 Tiger Woods won again, but Phil Mickelson bowed to Stuart Appleby. 2B

Howard breaks bank

Phillies slugger Ryan Howard set a record for arbitration victory when he was awarded $10 million. 2B



Sports Trivia

Which was the last boys' school to win three straight WPIAL basketball championships? 2B

Last night's scores

San Jose 3, Philadelphia 1
N.Y. Islanders 1, Tampa Bay 0
Buffalo 5, Toronto 1
Boston 5, Florida 4, SO
Columbus 3, Ottawa 2, SO
Vancouver 3, Nashville 2, SO
Los Angeles 5, St. Louis 1

Brian **HERMAN**

Pearson stars for Erie JC

Cleaning out the notebook:

Two years ago, Perrial Pearson led Monessen to one of the bigger WPIAL basketball championship upsets with 15 points and 18 rebounds in the Lady Greyhounds' 40-34 victory over the state's top ranked team Serra.

Today she's starring in Erie for the Mercyhurst North East Junior College team.

The 5-11 Pearson is the leading scorer and rebounder for the 12-16 Saints.

She averaged 17 points and 10 rebounds.

A 1,000 point scorer at Monessen and second team all-stater, Pearson started her collegiate career with one season at Central Florida Community College in Ocala.

■In case you're wondering, Monessen will be attempting to become only the 10th girls' team over the last 20 years to win a WPIAL title with an unbeaten record.

The last to do it was Avonworth three years ago as a Class AA entry at 23-0.

Ironically, the only girls' team to ever also take a PIAA title with a perfect record was Mt. Alvernia, Monessen's opponent tonight, in 1983.

■Ringgold junior Stephanie Wohar will sing the national anthem before Upper St. Clair's girls play Peters Township Saturday at 7 p.m. in the WPIAL Class AAAA basketball title game at Duquesne University's A.J. Palumbo Center.

Wohar will be the second Ringgold student to sing the national anthem before a WPIAL championship.

Brianna Pry, a senior volleyball player, did the honors at the soccer finals at Elizabeth Forward.

Upper St. Clair's coaching staff, incidentally, is loaded with area flavor.

Monongahela resident Ernie Koontz coaches the Lady Panthers. His aides include his daughter Heather, a former Ringgold athlete; Ringgold softball coach and Finley Middle School principal Jeff Matty and Finley Middle School teacher Gary Anselmino.

■Add Ringgold: The newest addition to Scott Frederick's track coaching staff is Stephanie Kuhn.

Kuhn, who won a WPIAL title in the javelin event with the Lady Rams, starred at Robert Morris University the last four years and was the first Colonial to qualify for the NCAA Women's Track and Field Championships as a freshman.

Kuhn owns the Robert Morris school javelin record with a toss of 165 feet and 11 inches and made four straight trips to the ECAC and NCAA East Regional Championships.

■The Erie RiverRats - formerly the Pittsburgh RiverRats - will open their second training camp Monday at the Family Sports Center in Butler.

Monessen's Brandon Jackson and Shawn Martin and Ringgold's T.J. Carden are area gridders set to play for the second-year indoor team.

The RiverRats will open the season Sunday, March 9 against the Carolina Speed at the Tullio Arena in Erie.

And thanks to Jim Chacko of Charleroi who says wise men are not always silent, but they sure know when to be!

Monessen used to title tilts

Lady Greyhounds are in ninth WPIAL final in 16 years.

By **BRIAN HERMAN**
Sports Editor
bherman@tribweb.com

A lot of high schools dream about making the WPIAL basketball championship game.

For the Monessen High girls and coach Major Corley, it's becoming routine.

This year's unbeaten Lady Greyhounds are making the school's ninth Class A title appearance since 1993 and third in the last five years against Mt. Alvernia at 5 p.m. at Duquesne University's A.J. Palumbo Center.

After winning only one of their first six trips to Pittsburgh in the WPIAL's biggest game, Monessen has won two straight - both over Serra Catholic.

Here's a look back at Monessen's previous title appearances:

1993

AVONWORTH 53, MONESSEN 51

Defending champion Avonworth's 6-1 senior center Julie Moehring scored 22 points an grabbed 14 rebounds to lead the Antelopes (21-3) at the Pitt Field House.

Gina Naccarato had 21 points for Monessen (22-2) but scored only seven points in the second half, including a 3-pointer at the buzzer to make the final score close.

Joining Naccarato in the Monessen starting lineup were Angie Scirotto, Allison Kessler, Jessica Whiteside and Melissa Gigliotti.

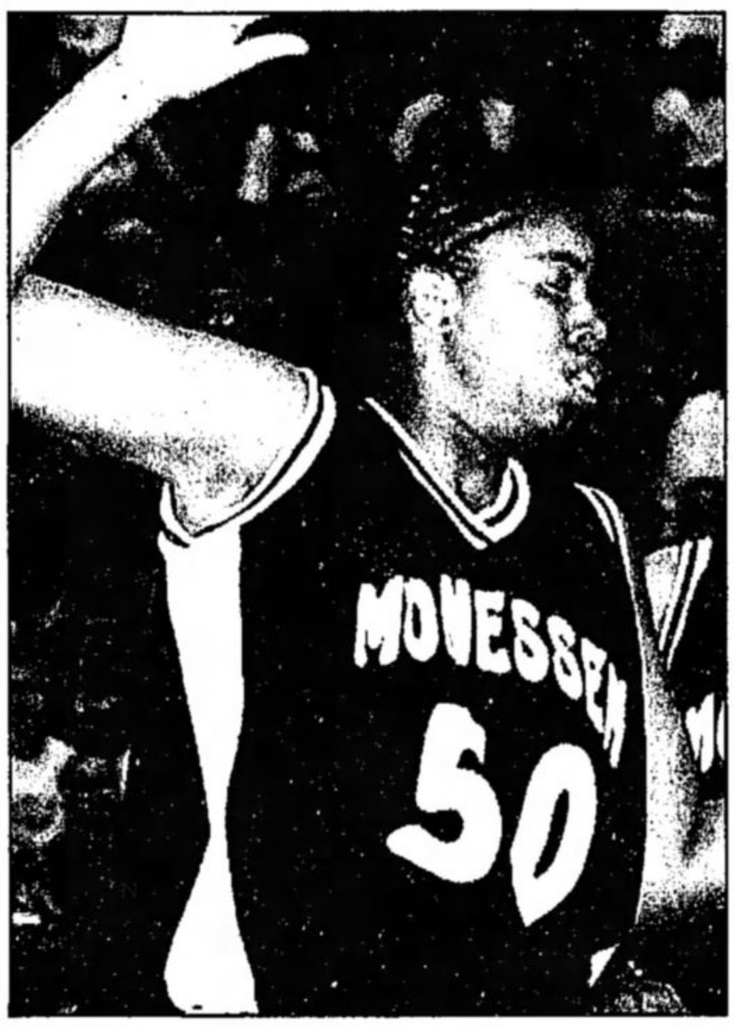
Scirotto, a 1,000-point scorer, was held to seven points.

1995

MONESSEN 66, SACRED HEART 52

Naccarato poured in 31 points, including 16 in the final eight minutes, as the Lady Greyhounds (22-2) coasted to their first championship over the Chargers (17-7) at the Pitt Field House.

Besides taking scoring honors, Naccararo had nine rebounds, nine assists and five steals.



File photos by Jim Ference/The Valley Independent

Perrial Pearson, left, led Monessen to the WPIAL Class A title in 2006 while Charel Allen helped the Lady Greyhounds earn gold medals in 2004.

Beth Planey followed with 16 points while Nicole Naccarato, Gina's younger sister, had 13 points. Amber Williams and Brandy Mason, the other two starters, had 11 and nine points, respectively.

1996

VINCENTIAN 43, MONESSEN 39

Two of the WPIAL's highest scoring teams with 74-point averages played to a low scoring affair at the Pitt Field House as the Royals (23-3) avenged a semifinal defeat the previous year.

Gina Naccarato was limited to 16 points, 16 under her average.

Monessen (23-4) was outscored 21-13 in the fourth quarter.

The Lady Greyhounds' starting five consisted of the Naccaratos, Planey, Mason and Jessie Hughes.

1998

MT. ALVERNIA 55, MONESSEN 46

Christal White, a 5-11 senior who was headed to the University of Miami, dominated the Lady Greyhounds (23-4) with 32 points and 14 rebounds at the Pitt Field House.

Nicole Naccarato and Latitia Willams both had 16 points for Monessen (23-4). Cara Gagatko, Carla Howard and Lisa Mauck were the other starters.

2001

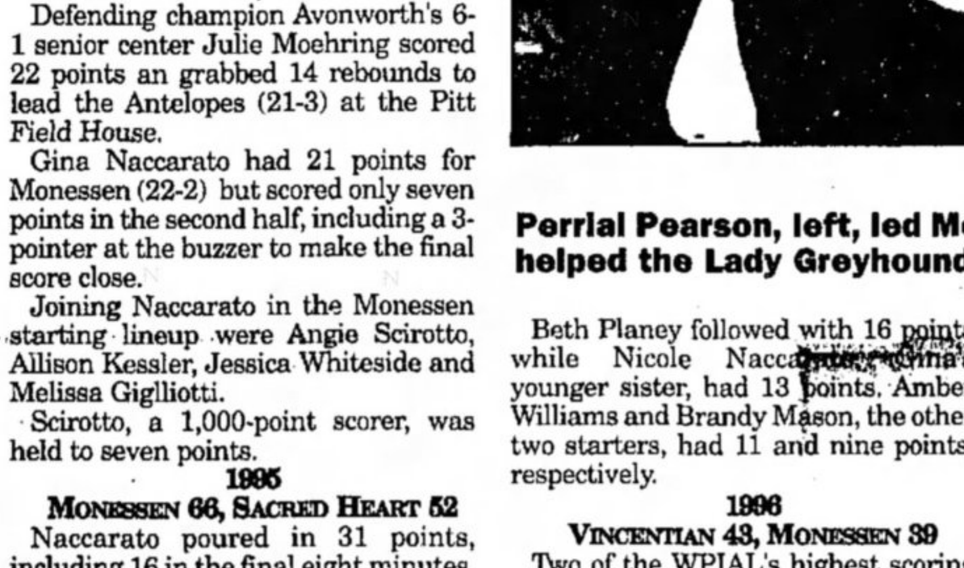
CLAIRTON 84, MONESSEN 50

The Lady Greyhounds (21-6) lost even though freshman Charel Allen broke the Class A title single-game scoring record with 39 points at Duquesne University's A.J. Palumbo Center.

In a 19-minute span from the second quarter to the middle of the fourth quarter, Allen accounted for all 27 of Monessen's points.

Kamela Gissendanner, a 6-2 sophomore, had 34 points and 21 rebounds for Clairton (18-9).

(See MONESSEN, Page 2B)



Montreal goalie Cristobal Huet sits in his crease as Pittsburgh's Ryan Malone celebrates Sergei Gonchar's game-winning goal during third period.

Red-hot Malkin leads Pens past Canadiens, 5-4

MONTREAL (AP) — Evgeni Malkin continues to carry the Pittsburgh Penguins to the heights of the Eastern Conference despite Sidney Crosby's absence.

Malkin scored his 35th goal midway through the third period and got his second assist of the game on Sergei Gonchar's power-play goal moments later to help the Pittsburgh Penguins beat the Montreal Canadiens 5-4 on Thursday night.

Malkin, who assisted on Ryan Whitney's goal 6:46 in to become the first player to reach 80 points this season, scored on a breakaway 10:22 into the third to tie it after Pittsburgh — which led 2-0 and 3-1 — blew a two-goal margin to fall behind 4-3.

"I've said it before, I played with him during the lockout and I knew what he was capable of," said Gonchar, who restored the Penguins' lead with his 10th goal at 10:58. "He's just playing up to his potential with more ice time and more chances and I kind of expect it from him. It's not a surprise to me."

Gonchar recorded his 600th career point in his 883rd regular-season game when the veteran defenseman's point shot got past Cristobal Huet for Pittsburgh's second power-play goal of the game 15 seconds after Montreal's Alex Kovalev was sent off for interference.

"When you're in the league for a while, it happens," said Gonchar, who broke in with Washington in 1994-95 and had a brief stint with Boston at the end of the 2003-04 season before signing with Pittsburgh as a free agent in August 2005. "I was fortunate enough to play with good players in Washington and here, and fortunate enough to stay healthy throughout my career."

Dany Sabourin made 17 saves and Jarko Ruutu and Ryan Malone also

(See PENS, Page 3B)

Pitt fades in 82-70 loss to Notre Dame

Little Tory Jackson (5-10) stands tall for Fighting Irish.

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) — Tory Jackson wouldn't let himself stumble. He made sure Notre Dame didn't either.

Jackson was dribbling toward the basket when his foot hit a Pittsburgh player's foot near the free throw line and he appeared to lose control of the ball. Suddenly he pulled it in, squeezed between two defenders and went in for a layup that cut the lead to three points.

"He just came out of nowhere with the ball and put it in," said Luke Harangody, who had 23 points and 12 rebounds for the 21st-ranked Irish on Thursday night in their 82-70 victory. "That was a huge play for us and got us into that mode we needed to be in to make some energy plays."

Jackson finished with 16 points and a career-high 13 rebounds as Notre Dame overcame an 11-point deficit in the second half.

His teammates praised the play of Jackson, saying he simply wouldn't allow them to lose. Fellow guard Kyle McAlarney said Jackson energized the Irish.

"He's yelling, he's getting loose balls, he's getting rebounds and he's making big plays," McAlarney said.

Pitt was frustrated by the ability of the 5-foot-11 Jackson to rebound.

"The little guard had 13 rebounds," said Panthers freshman DeJuan Blair, who had 14 points and 13 rebounds.

Jackson and Harangody, both sophomores, remain undefeated at home as the Irish ran their home winning streak to 35 games. Coach Mike Brey conceded that it might have been easy for the Irish to think the streak was coming to an end against Pitt, a team that had beaten Notre Dame five straight times.

The Irish trailed 51-40 when Sam Young hit a 14-foot jumper with just under 14 minutes left.

Pitt's Levance Fields drives around Tory Jackson.

"But we kept finding a way, and I think Tory Jackson's will at key times made his teammates believe," Brey said.

Notre Dame responded with a 21-10 run, tying the game at 61 on a 3-pointer by McAlarney with 5:49 left. Then Harangody stole the ball from Tyrell Biggs at midcourt and drove for a dunk that brought the crowd of 11,418 to its feet. Jackson then hit a 3, and Ayers followed with another 3.

Pittsburgh went nearly 5 minutes without a field goal over the final 6:30, including a blown dunk by Young.

"We missed some free throws, we missed some layups, missed a dunk and that obviously can change a game at that point," Pitt coach Jamie Dixon said.

Notre Dame (20-5, 10-3 Big East) ran its streak of consecutive home wins in league play to 16 games, tying Georgetown (1987-90) for the second longest such streak in the conference.

(See PITT, Page 2B)

SPORTS

Buc brass eyes end to losing ways

Winning hoped for even though most changes were in front office.

BRADENTON, Fla. (AP) — The Pittsburgh Pirates changed plenty in the front office during the offseason. Now, owner Bob Nutting is putting the responsibility for an improved record on the players.

"I hope they can see in the year that's gone by the real changes we've put in place," Nutting said Thursday. "We're committed to being a first-class organization, from the new leadership team to the new coaching staff to the tools we're giving them to succeed.

"And now, really, the responsibility, the accountability is shifting onto the field. It's time for everyone to perform."

Since taking over as principal owner in January 2007, Nutting has replaced nearly everyone in the team's hierarchy, including hiring Frank Coonelly as team president last September.

Coonelly had been chief legal counsel for Major League Baseball. Once he arrived, Coonelly replaced most of the upper tier of the baseball operations staff.

Nutting, Coonelly and others addressed all 65 players in camp for a half-hour inside a Pirate City cafeteria. Among the points they emphasized was that it was time for the Pirates to not feel burdened by a 15-year losing streak that is one shy of the longest in professional sports history.

The 1933-48 Philadelphia Phillies had 16 consecutive losing seasons.

"We have a 15-year stretch that we can't dwell on," Nutting said. "For most of our history, the Pittsburgh Pirates have been a tremendous, respected franchise, with players who were proud to wear the uniform, who had an expectation of excellence. I believe we're in a position now to begin that execution."

The challenge for the Pirates is that they were 68-94 last season and did little more than tinker with the roster in the offseason. The overwhelming majority of change that new management implemented was systematic.

That has led to some in the team's fan base doubting whether anything really will be different, especially in 2008.

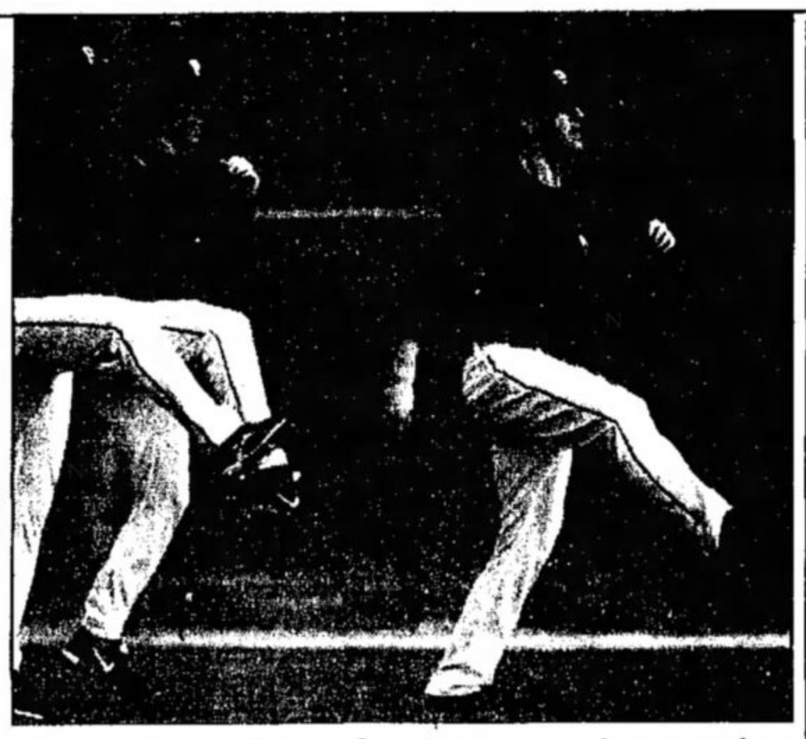
"We can't worry about skepticism," Coonelly said. "We're moving forward. We're starting now. As I told the players, they do not own the last 15 years of losing baseball in Pittsburgh, and they shouldn't be defined by it."

Nutting said he believed the Pirates can contend in the Central Division, though he stopped well short of a firm prediction.

"I certainly believe that," he said. "I've never professed to be an evaluator of baseball talent, so I trust the guys we have in place to make those decisions. But the optimism I've heard, the enthusiasm I've seen, certainly gives me a wonderful feeling."

The other aspect that some in Pittsburgh doubt that ownership will raise payroll. The Pirates' projected $50 million payroll is about the same as last season, and will likely rank fourth-lowest in the majors.

Nutting said that, "depending on the circumstances," he will raise payroll if his baseball people ask.



Jason Bay, right, leads some teammates through a stretching drill at Bradenton.

Cougar grapplers home for AA finals

Charleroi quartet should be comfortable for WPIAL championships.

By BILL HUGHES
For The Valley Independent

The WPIAL Class AA wrestling championships run tonight and Saturday with the four Charleroi qualifiers not having to go far.

The reason is Charleroi is hosting the event, which starts at 5 p.m.

Charleroi coach Gregg Doerfler feels his guys will have a home field advantage.

"Being at our home gym will make the guys be more relaxed," he said. "They worked hard the last few weeks and I am confident in all four of them."

Making his fourth trip to the WPIAL championships is Charleroi senior Dave Grillo (189).

Grillo, who was a runner-up his sophomore year when he lost by one point, is Charleroi's all-time leading winner with 105 wins.

He has a bye during the pigtail round and will face the winner of the match between Valley's Kyle Dudley and Burgettstown's Derek Matijezich.

If Dudley wins, he and Grillo will face off for the third time after splitting victories.

"By no means will it be easy for David," 'Doerfler said. "But I think that he can win the WPIAL."

Doerfler is confident about Grillo making a run at a title.

"He has a legitimate chance," Doerfler said. "He knows what it takes. I think he has a legit shot to be a WPIAL champion."

Ethan Radomile (285) is in his third WPIAL championships. Radomile opposes Shady Side Academy's Nick Ciesielski in a pigtail match.

"I think if Ethan wrestles like he had wrestled all year with intensity and with focus, he will make it out of the WPIAL's," Doerfler said.

Ray Campbell (215) was Charleroi's lone Class AA Section 2 champion and faces a familiar opponent in Keystone Oaks' John Kazalas in a first round match.

"Ray beat him twice this year including for section title but it is not a guarantee," Doerfler said. "He is here for the first time so as long as he doesn't get star struck and keeps his head I think he can be in the top three getting out of here."

Greg Black (119) faces Shady Side Academy's Anthony Elias in a pigtail match.

"It's his first time here but if he wrestles to his potential, he can take sixth or better," Doerfler said.

The top six in the WPIAL tournament advance.

Six BVA, Ringgold wrestlers advance

Survivors to continue today at Canon-Mac.

Belle Vernon Area had four first round winners and Ringgold two in the WPIAL Class AAA wrestling championships Thursday at Canon-McMillan.

Passing their opening tests were the Leps' Jeremy Weslager (112), Donnie Tasser (140), Jacob Boyer (160) and P.J. Tasser (171) and the Rams' Fred Garcia (171) and Todd Miller (189).

Weslager decisioned North Hills' Cameron Weber, 7-0; D. Tasser pinned Butler's Jon Sanko in 3:10, Boyer had a technical fall over Hopewell's Drew Howard, 16-0 (45:31); P.J. Tasser decisioned Kiski's Billy Emerick, 6-1; Garcia decisioned Fox Chapel's Aaron Barker, 7-0 and Miller took a technical fall over Penn Hills' Chris Perry, 19-2 (3:40).

Losing in first round matches in the double elimination event were Ringgold's Dean Mathies (112) and Mike Tokar (140) and BVA's Bret Perry (10) and Jesse Gauden (189).

Mathies was pinned in 50 seconds by Kiski's Zach Cecchetti with Tokar dropping a 2-0 decision to Mt. Lebanon's Andrew Buda, Perry losing 4-3 to North Allegheny's Andy Candiello and Gauden losing 5-0 to Connellsville's Justin Haines.

BVA's Dante Altemare (103) and Cody Rubin (119) and Ringgold's Neal Rands (152) ad Chris Clark (285) bowed out with losses in the pig-tail round.

Altemare was pinned by North Allegheny's Kevin Monper in 1:20, Rubin by Seneca Valley's Grant Evans in 3:16, Rands by Canon-McMillan's Colin Ryan in 1:55 and Clark by the Leps' Gauden in 3:56.

The Rams' Mathies took a 12-2 major decision over Butler's Daman Redenbach in the pigtail round.

Weather permitting, the quarterfinals will start at 5:30 p.m.

The WPIAL planned to post by noon today on its web site (www.wpial.org) if there would be a postponement.

Phils' Howard gets $10M

Aribrator awards star record amount.

CLEARWATER, Fla. (AP) — Everywhere Ryan Howard turned, people wanted to dig into his pockets.

Howard's bank account just skyrocketed like one of those home runs he deposits into the upper deck. Baseball's best bargain finally will be getting big bucks.

Howard won his salary arbitration case against the Philadelphia Phillies on Thursday when he was awarded $10 million, the highest figure given a victorious player.

Now teammates expect him to pay for their meals and pick up the tab on their nights out.

"My reaction is mostly relief," Howard said. "It was an interesting process. Anyway you look at it, it's a win-win because it's a substantial raise."

Howard made $900,000 last year and $355,000 during his MVP season in 2006. The Phillies offered $7 million, but Howard became the first player to win in six arbitration cases this season.

Howard tied the record for the highest salary awarded in arbitration, received by Alfonso Soriano in his losing case against the Washington Nationals in 2006. Soriano had sought $12 million.

"I'm sure he's very pleased," Phillies assistant general manager Ruben Amaro Jr. said. "This has been a negotiation that has been very amicable and very professional. It's just a part of the process."

Los Angeles Angels reliever Francisco Rodriguez will either tie the arbitration record or break it after going to a hearing Thursday. K-Rod, eligible for free agency after this season, asked a panel of Stephen Goldberg, Elizabeth Neumeier and Steven Wolf for a raise from $7.1 million to $12.5 million. The Angels argued for $10 million.

Howard batted .268 with 47 homers and 136 RBIs last season in what was considered a down year for him. In 2006 he had 58 homers, 149 RBIs and a .313 average, one of the best seasons by a second-year player.

Mickelson ousted in Match Play

MARANA, Ariz. (AP) -- Jonathan Byrd has played only 27 holes in his two rounds at the Accenture Match Play Championship. Defending champion Henrik Stenson played almost that many in one day.

Paul Casey had to make nine birdies in the opening round to win on the 18th hole. He followed that by making only two birdies and didn't even have to play the 18th hole.

No one ever said match play was fair.

Just ask Phil Mickelson.

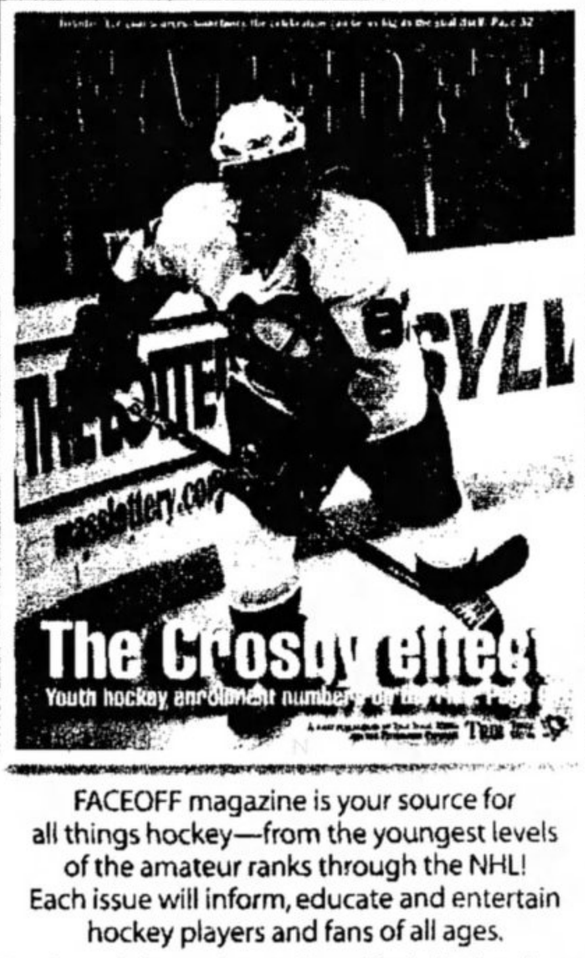
"Unfortunately, I just didn't shoot low enough," Mickelson said after playing the second-best round among 32 players Thursday at Dove Mountain. Trouble was, he was playing Stuart Appleby, who had the best round. Appleby made his ninth birdie on the 17th hole for a 2-and-1 victory that sent Mickelson packing.

When the dust settled in the high desert, Tiger Woods and Steve Stricker were the only ones left among the top eight seeds in his wacky, wonderful tournament.

Woods was on the ropes in the opening round until a birdie-birdie-birdie-eagle stretch late in the day allowed him to escape. He had no such worries against Arron Oberholser, building a quick lead and disposing of him in a 3-and-2 victory.

"Match play is an animal that's all about the moment," Woods said. "It's not about building toward Sunday. If you don't play well, you're going home."

Only 16 players were remaining going into the third round Friday, some of them lucky to still be around.



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Monessen (FROM PAGE ONE)

Nychole Whitlock, Natalie DeiCas, Cassandra Tyree and Erica Yuschak joined Allen in the starting five.

2008

SERRA 69, MONESSEN 51

Despite taking scoring honors with 28 points, Charel Allen had an off night for Monessen (23-4), missing 30 of 42 shots against the top-seeded Eagles (22-2) at the Palumbo Center.

Serra, which never trailed after taking a 19-10 first quarter lead, sealed the win by hitting 12 of 14 free throws in the last eight minutes.

Allen, Whitlock, Tyree, Sarah Bock and Marcel Tansmore were the Monessen starters.

2004

MONESSEN 63, SERRA 47

Charel Allen's third time at the Palumbo Center proved to be a charm as second-seed Monessen (24-2) knocked off the state's top-ranked Eagles (24-2) and ended a 21-game winning streak.

Sophomore reserves Perrial Pearson (12) and Charrisse Bassett (8) came off the bench to grab 20 rebounds as the Lady Greyhounds outrebounded the taller Eagles, 40-31.

Allen, Whitlock and Tyree were returning starters with Sarah Bock and Alicia Stein.

2006

MONESSEN 40, SERRA 34

After losing to the Eagles by more than 10 points twice during the season, the Lady Greyhounds upset the defending WPIAL and PIAA champs at the Palumbo Center.

Perrial Pearson had 15 points and 18 rebounds for Monessen (18-10), which led from start to finish.

Kelly Mornak, Brianna Salvino, Melissa Popovich and Samone Stepoli were the other Monessen starters with Carly Cocciolone and Breane Minardi coming off the bench to add nine and six points, respectively.

Pitt (FROM PAGE ONE)

Pittsburgh won 20 straight at home from 2001-2004.

The Panthers (19-7, 7-6), who fell out of the rankings for the first time in two years after a 72-54 loss at Marquette last Friday, lost two straight for the first time since December 2006.

"I'm really steamed," Blair said. "I don't know what to say. I don't remember losing two games in a row. It would have been different if they had been beating us the whole game, but we had it."

McAlarney scored 13 of his 15 points in the second half and Rob Kurz added 14 points.

Young led Pittsburgh with 20 points, while Keith Benjamin added 15 and Levance Fields, playing his second game after missing 12 games with a broken bone in his foot, had 10.

Brey credited Jackson for the victory.

"He's got just a will about him and heart," Brey said. "He's a winner. He really is a winner, and I think he gives his teammates confidence with the will he has."

SPORTS DIGEST

California, USC in Metro finale

California's eighth grade Metro basketball team is scheduled to play Upper St. Calir,a 41-28 winner over Belle Venon, in today's 7:30 p.m. championshp game at the South Park Elementary Center gym.

Ben Wallace dealt to Cavs

The Cleveland Cavaliers gave LeBron James the help he wants — maybe enough to compete for the ring he craves.

The Cavaliers took part in the biggest trade of deadline day, landing center Ben Wallace and swingman Wally Szczerbiak on Thursday in a three-team deal with Chicago and Seattle.

Wallace provides the Cavs with rebounding, shot blocking and plenty of playoff experience. Szczerbiak's outside shooting could make teams pay for double-teaming James, the NBA's leading scorer who hoped his team could pull off a move.

"When you have a superstar like LeBron James, it's important to be able to put shooters around him," Cavaliers general manager Danny Ferry said. "When you have guys who make the extra passes, having somebody to knock down that shot is big."

Trivia answer

New Castle (1997-98-99).

Indiana to consider Sampson's future

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (AP) — Indiana officials met to consider the future of embattled coach Kelvin Sampson, who has been accused by the NCAA of five major recruiting violations over improper telephone calls to high school players.

The university was reviewing the allegations and had set a today deadline for a report and recommendation on action. University spokesman Larry MacIntyre and members of the board of trustees denied reports Indiana had decided Sampson's fate and would make assistant coach Dan Dakich the interim head coach of the 15th-ranked Hoosiers.

Vols' Parker will skip senior season

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — All-American forward Candace Parker will skip her senior season at Tennessee. The redshirt junior will graduate at the end of this season and wants to participate in the summer Olympics and pursue a professional career.

Lewis staying with Cleveland

CLEVELAND (AP) — Running back Jamal Lewis has agreed to terms on a three-year contract to stay with the Cleveland Browns. Lewis was to become an unrestricted free agent next week.

Fogg lands deal with Cincinnati

Former Pittsbugh Pirate pitcher Josh Fogg signed a one-year contract with the Cincinnati Reds.

Fogg went 10-9 with a 4.98 ERA for Colorado last year.

SPORTS

High school playoffs

Boys
Class AAAA
Championship
Today
At Palumbo Center
9 p.m. - Central Catholic (22-4) vs Moon (20-6)
Class AAA
Championship
Saturday
At Palumbo Center
9 p.m. - Blackhawk (22-5) vs Hopewell (21-5)
Class AA
Saturday
Championship
At Palumbo Center
1 p.m. - Beaver Falls (22-3) vs Jeannette (19-4)
Class A
Championship
Today
At Palumbo Center
7 p.m. - Serra (24-2) vs Wilkinsburg (15-10)
Girls
Class AAAA
Championship
Saturday
At Palumbo Center
7 p.m. - Upper St. Clair (21-5) vs Peters Township (20-7)
Class AAA
Championship
Saturday
At Palumbo Center
3 p.m. - Hampton (25-2) vs West Mifflin (24-3)
Class AA
Championship
Saturday
At Palumbo Center
11 a.m. - Sacred Heart (25-1) vs South Park (20-8)
Class A
Championship
Today
At Palumbo Center
5 p.m. - Monessen (26-0) vs Mt. Alvernia (16-8)

NHL standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	35	21	5	75	164	145
Pittsburgh	35	21	5	75	182	165
N.Y. Rangers	30	24	8	68	157	155
N.Y. Islanders	30	25	7	67	154	176
Philadelphia	30	25	6	66	187	177

Northeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Ottawa	35	20	6	76	206	180
Montreal	33	20	9	75	196	177
Boston	31	23	6	68	160	164
Buffalo	30	23	8	68	182	170
Toronto	25	28	9	59	169	199

Southeast Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Carolina	31	28	5	67	188	204
Washington	28	26	7	63	173	188
Atlanta	29	29	4	62	168	200
Florida	27	29	7	61	173	183
Tampa Bay	25	29	7	57	174	198

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Central Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	42	15	5	89	199	136
Nashville	32	23	8	72	183	175
St. Louis	28	23	9	65	156	169
Columbus	28	26	9	65	153	166
Chicago	28	26	6	62	169	169

Northwest Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Minnesota	34	22	5	73	169	166
Calgary	31	22	8	70	177	177
Vancouver	31	22	8	70	163	156
Colorado	30	25	6	66	167	169
Edmonton	27	29	5	59	164	183

Pacific Division

	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	37	22	5	79	185	158
Anaheim	34	23	7	75	159	159
San Jose	32	21	8	72	159	150
Phoenix	31	26	4	66	169	168
Los Angeles	26	34	3	55	181	206

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss or shootout loss.

Thursday's Games
Carolina 5, Atlanta 3
San Jose 3, Philadelphia 1
N.Y. Islanders 1, Tampa Bay 0
Buffalo 5, Toronto 1
Pittsburgh 5, Montreal 4
Boston 5, Florida 4, SO
Columbus 3, Ottawa 2, SO
Vancouver 3, Nashville 2, SO
Los Angeles 5, St. Louis 1

Today's Games
Edmonton at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Colorado at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Detroit at Calgary, 9 p.m.
St. Louis at Anaheim, 10 p.m.

Pens summary

Pittsburgh	**2**	**1**	**2 - 5**
Montreal	**0**	**2**	**2 - 4**

First Period—1, Pittsburgh, Whitney 12 (Malkin, Sykora), 6:46. 2, Pittsburgh, Ruutu 2, 18:47. Penalty—O'Byrne, Mon (tripping), 16:11.

Second Period—3, Montreal, Koivu 12 (S.Kostitsyn, O'Byrne), 3:27. 4, Pittsburgh, Malone 20 (Whitney, Sykora), 6:59 (pp). 5, Montreal, Higgins 19 (Kovalev, Markov), 18:07 (pp). Penalties—Talbot, Pit, major (fighting), 1:26; Lapierre, Mon, major-misconduct (fighting), 1:26; Latendresse, Mon (high-sticking), 5:48; Ruutu, Pit (hooking), 16:31.

Third Period—6, Montreal, Ryder 12 (Streit, Gorges), :21. 7, Montreal, Hamrlik 4 (Koivu, Kovalev), 3:25 (pp). 8, Pittsburgh, Malkin 35 (Malone), 10:22. 9, Pittsburgh, Gonchar 10 (Whitney, Malkin), 10:58 (pp). Penalties—Kennedy, Pit (hooking), 1:44; Malkin, Pit (high-sticking), 8:07; Kovalev, Mon (interference), 10:43; Hamrlik, Mon (charging), 13:18.

Shots on Goal—Pittsburgh 15-8-7—30. Montreal 8-7-6—21.

Power-play opportunities—Pittsburgh 2 of 4; Montreal 2 of 3.

Goalies—Pittsburgh, Sabourin 10-9-1 (21 shots-17 saves). Montreal, Huet 21-12-6 (30-25).

A—21,273 (21,273). T—2:18.

Tiger Woods will try to stay alive in the Accenture Match Play 2 p.m. on The Golf Channel.

Sports dial

Today
Television
2 p.m. - Golf Channel - WGC-Accenture Match Play, golf.
6:30 p.m. - Golf Channel - Fields Open, women's golf.
7 p.m. ESPN2 - Davidson at Winthrop, college basketball.
8 p.m. - ESPN - Washington at Cleveland, pro basketbll.
9 p.m. - ESPN2 - Richard Guitierrez vs Miguel Angel Vasquez, boxing.
10:30 p.m. - ESPN - Boston at Phoenix, pro basketball.
11 p.m. - Versus - Tour of California, cycling, tape delay.
Radio
5 p.m. - WJPA (1450) - WPIAL Class AA Tournament, high school wrestling.
6 p.m. - WJPA (95.3 FM) - WPIAL Class AAA Tournament, high school wrestling.
7 p.m. - WBGG (970) - Serra vs Wilkinsburg, high school basketball.
9 p.m. - KQV (1410) - Moon vs Central Catholic, high school basketball.

NBA standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	41	11	.788	—
Toronto	29	23	.558	12
New Jersey	24	30	.444	18
Philadelphia	24	31	.436	18 1/2
New York	16	38	.296	26

Southeast Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	34	22	.607	—
Washington	25	28	.472	7 1/2
Atlanta	21	30	.412	10 1/2
Charlotte	19	35	.352	14
Miami	9	43	.173	23

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	39	15	.722	—
Cleveland	30	24	.556	9
Chicago	21	32	.396	17 1/2
Indiana	21	33	.389	18
Milwaukee	20	34	.370	19

WESTERN CONFERENCE
Southwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Orleans	37	15	.712	—
San Antonio	36	17	.679	1 1/2
Dallas	35	19	.648	3
Houston	34	20	.630	4
Memphis	14	40	.259	24

Northwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	35	19	.648	—
Denver	33	20	.623	1 1/2
Portland	29	25	.537	6
Seattle	14	39	.264	20 1/2
Minnesota	11	42	.208	23 1/2

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	37	17	.685	—
Phoenix	37	17	.685	—
Golden State	33	21	.611	4
Sacramento	25	28	.472	11 1/2
L.A. Clippers	18	33	.353	17 1/2

Thursday's Games
Houston 112, Miami 100
San Antonio 100, Minnesota 99
Portland 92, Seattle 88
Friday's Games
Philadelphia at Orlando, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Toronto at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Denver at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Milwaukee at Detroit, 8 p.m.
Houston at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Washington at Cleveland, 8 p.m.
Boston at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m.
Utah at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Portland at Seattle, 10:30 p.m.

PSAC standings

Men
Western Division

	PSAC W	PSAC L	Overall W	Overall L
California	9	0	20	4
Edinboro	8	1	19	5
Clarion	6	4	14	10
Indiana	4	5	12	12
Slippery Rock	4	5	7	17
Lock Haven	2	8	2	22
Shippensburg	0	10	6	19
Eastern Division				
Cheyney	9	1	17	7
Kutztown	8	2	16	8
Millersville	7	2	18	6
East Stroudsburg	4	5	16	8
Mansfield	3	6	15	9
West Chester	2	7	11	13
Bloomsburg	0	10	8	16

Saturday
California at Indiana, 7:30 p.m.
Lock Haven at Edinboro
Slippery Rock at Shippensurg
Kutztown at Cheyney
Millersville at East Stroudsburg
Mansfield at West Chester
DeSales at Bloomsburg

Women
Western Division

	PSAC W	PSAC L	Overall W	Overall L
Indiana	8	1	23	2
Clarion	7	3	17	7
California	6	3	19	5
Shippensburg	5	5	17	8
Edinboro	4	5	15	9
Lock Haven	2	8	7	17
Slippery Rock	1	8	7	17
Eastern Division				
Millersville	9	0	20	4
West Chester	7	2	16	8
Cheyney	6	4	10	14
East Stroudsburg	4	5	10	13
Kutztown	4	6	11	14
Bloomsburg	2	8	7	18
Mansfield	1	8	6	18

Thursday
Edinboro 60, District of Columbia 59
Saturday
California at Indiana (5:30 p.m.)
Slippery Rock at Shippensburg
Lock Haven at Edinboro
Kutztown at Cheyney
Millersville at East Stroudsburg
Mansfield at West Chester

Region rankings

NCAA Division II EAST
Men

	Overall W	Overall L	Region W	Region L
1. Mount Olive	20	4	20	4
2. California, Pa.	16	4	15	3
3. Millersville	17	5	17	5
4. Edinboro	16	5	16	5
5. Pitt.h-Johnstown	18	5	18	5
6. Alderson-Broaddus	19	6	18	5
7. Pfeiffer	18	5	18	4
8. Barton	16	7	16	6
9. West Liberty State	17	5	17	5
10. Cheyney	15	7	15	7

Sports moves

BASEBALL
National League
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Signed Derrick Hall, president, and Josh Byrnes, general manager, to eight-year contract extensions, through 2015, and promoted Byrnes to executive vice president and general manager.

CINCINNATI REDS—Agreed to terms with RHP Josh Fogg on a one-year contract. Placed LHP Bobby Livingston on the 60-day DL.

MILWAUKEE BREWERS—Agreed to terms with C Lou Palmisano on a one-year contract.

BASKETBALL
National Basketball Association
CHICAGO BULLS—Traded G Adrian Griffin to Seattle as part of a three-team trade including Cleveland.

CLEVELAND CAVALIERS—Traded G Larry Hughes, F Drew Gooden, F Cedric Simmons and G Shannon Brown to Chicago, and F Ira Newble and F Donyell Marshall to Seattle. Acquired F-C Ben Wallace, F Joe Smith and a 2009 second-round draft pick from Chicago, and F Wally Szczerbiak and G Delonte West from Seattle.

HOUSTON ROCKETS—Traded G-F Bonzi Wells, G Mike James, cash and a conditional second-round draft pick to New Orleans for G Bobby Jackson, G Adam Haluska, F Marcus Vinicius and a conditional second-round draft pick. Traded Vinicius, the rights to F Malick Badiane and cash to Memphis for the rights to F Sergei Lishouk.

PORTLAND TRAIL BLAZERS—Traded G Taurean Green to Denver for G Von Wafer.

TORONTO RAPTORS—Traded G Juan Dixon and cash to Detroit for C Primoz Brezec.

FOOTBALL
National Football League
ARIZONA CARDINALS—Released DL Chris Cooper, S Terrence Holt and OT Oliver Ross.

CAROLINA PANTHERS—Released RB DeShaun Foster.

JACKSONVILLE JAGUARS—Re-signed LB Tony Gilbert.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS—Named Dom Capers special assistant for the secondary.

Latest Line

NBA

Favorite	Points	Underdog
Sacramento	2	CHARLOTTE
INDIANA	4	New Jersey
ORLANDO	7	Philadelphia
CLEVELAND	NL	Washington
Toronto	5	NEW YORK
DETROIT	12	Milwaukee
Dallas	NL	MEMPHIS
Utah	3	LA CLIPPERS
Portland	NL	SEATTLE
PHOENIX	2	Boston
GOLDEN ST.	7	Atlanta

College Basketball

Favorite	Points	Underdog
Penn	1	DARTMOUTH
HARVARD	4	Princeton
COLUMBIA	Pick	Brown
CORNELL	4	Yale
UTAH ST.	5	Cal-Long Beach

HOME TEAM IN CAPS

College basketball scores

MEN
EAST
Cent. Connecticut St. 73, Fairleigh Dickinson 60
La Salle 81, Dayton 78, OT
Massachusetts 98, Rhode Island 91
Quinnipiac 62, Monmouth, N.J. 60
Robert Morris 69, Mount St. Mary's, Md. 66
St. Francis, NY 67, Long Island U. 64
Wagner 80, St. Francis, Pa. 72, 2OT
SOUTH
Appalachian St. 90, Furman 77
Gardner-Webb 96, ETSU 70
Jacksonville 96, Mercer 87, OT
Kennesaw St. 63, North Florida 54
Northwestern St. 81, McNeese St. 71
S. Utah 98, Centenary 94
S.C.-Upstate 79, Campbell 58
South Alabama 69, W. Kentucky 64
UNC Greensboro 74, W. Carolina 62
MIDWEST
Minnesota 69, Michigan 60
Notre Dame 82, Pittsburgh 70
Oakland, Mich. 84, IUPUI 69
Xavier 75, Duquesne 48
SOUTHWEST
Ark.-Little Rock 82, Arkansas St. 52
Lamar 73, Cent. Arkansas 58
Oral Roberts 72, UMKC 64
Stephen F.Austin 79, Sam Houston St. 57
FAR WEST
Idaho St. 64, Montana St. 49
Middle Tennessee 65, Denver 58
N. Arizona 73, Sacramento St. 59
Southern Cal 81, Oregon 75
UCLA 84, Oregon St. 49
Washington 75, Arizona 66
Washington St. 59, Arizona St. 47
Weber St. 76, Montana 67

WOMEN
EAST
James Madison 68, Hofstra 54
Long Island U. 56, St. Francis, NY 42
N.J. Tech 82, Utah Valley St. 72
Northeastern 65, George Mason 56
Towson 51, Delaware 49
SOUTH
Drexel 54, William & Mary 38
E. Kentucky 68, Tenn.-Martin 53
East Carolina 85, UAB 82
Florida Atlantic 64, Fla. International 59
Florida St. 71, Boston College 65
LSU 52, Kentucky 48
Louisiana-Lafayette 58, New Orleans 56
Marshall 83, Memphis 73
Mississippi 76, Auburn 68
Mississippi St. 58, South Carolina 54
North Carolina 79, Miami 61
Northwestern St. 69, McNeese St. 54
Old Dominion 87, Va. Commonwealth 67
Samford 71, Tennessee Tech 60
Tennessee 85, Alabama 58
UNC Wilmington 52, Georgia St. 42
Virginia 83, Clemson 71
MIDWEST
Creighton 69, N. Iowa 51
Drake 77, Bradley 63
E. Illinois 74, Illinois Tech 30
Illinois 69, Penn St. 49
Illinois St. 77, Wichita St. 57
Indiana St. 86, Missouri St. 77, OT
Michigan 72, Purdue 36
Michigan St. 65, Northwestern 40
Nebraska 73, Missouri 57
Ohio St. 69, Iowa 56
Valparaiso 75, Detroit 65
Wis.-Green Bay 78, Ill.-Chicago 60
Wright St. 65, Butler 60
SOUTHWEST
Ark.-Little Rock 66, Arkansas St. 51
Lamar 64, Cent. Arkansas 57
SMU 80, Rice 68
Tulsa 66, Houston 57
Vanderbilt 63, Arkansas 50
FAR WEST
Arizona St. 59, Washington St. 30
Boise St. 74, Idaho 40
Idaho St. 85, Montana St. 71
Long Beach St. 80, Cal St.-Fullerton 62
Montana 74, Weber St. 61
New Mexico St. 81, San Jose St. 65
Portland St. 82, N. Colorado 60
Saint Mary's, Calif. 86, San Francisco 73
San Diego 66, Santa Clara 53
Southern Cal 67, Oregon 58
UC Davis 53, Cal Poly 47
UC Santa Barbara 62, Pacific 51
UCLA 55, Oregon St. 52
Utah St. 56, Nevada 48
Washington 60, Arizona 58

Big East standings

	PSAC W	PSAC L	Overall W	Overall L
Georgetown	11	3	21	4
Louisville	11	3	21	6
Connecticut	10	3	21	5
Notre Dame	10	3	20	5
Marquette	8	5	18	6
Cincinnati	8	5	13	12
Pittsburgh	7	6	19	7
West Virginia	7	6	18	8
Syracuse	7	7	17	10
Villanova	6	7	16	9
DePaul	5	7	10	14
Seton Hall	5	8	15	11
St. John's	4	9	10	14
Providence	4	10	13	13
USF	2	12	11	16
Rutgers	2	12	10	17

Thursday
Notre Dame 82, Pitt 70

Pitt lineups

NOTRE DAME - 82
Kurz 5-11 2-2 14, Hillesland 2-6 0-0 4, Harangody 8-19 7-8 23, Jackson 6-11 3-4 16, McAlarney 4-12 4-4 15, Peoples 1-1 0-0 3, Zeller 1-4 0-0 2, Ayers 1-3 2-2 5. Totals 28-67 18-20 82.

PITTSBURGH - 70
Brown 3-6 2-2 8, Young 7-15 3-4 20, Blair 6-11 2-7 14, Benjamin 6-10 0-0 15, Ramon 0-8 0-0 0, Fields 4-10 1-1 10, Biggs 0-4 2-2 2, Wanamaker 0-0 1-2 1, McGhee 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 26-65 11-18 70.

Halftime--Pittsburgh 35-30.

3-Point Goals—Pittsburgh 7-25 (Benjamin 3-6, Young 3-6, Fields 1-4, Brown 0-3, Ramon 0-6), Notre Dame 8-24 (McAlarney 3-10, Kurz 2-4, Peoples 1-1, Ayers 1-3, Jackson 1-3, Zeller 0-3).

Fouled Out—Fields. Rebounds—Pittsburgh 37 (Blair 13), Notre Dame 45 (Jackson 13). Assists—Pittsburgh 11 (Fields 5), Notre Dame 14 (Jackson 5). Total Fouls—Pittsburgh 18, Notre Dame 15. A—11,418. 11,418.

Pens
(FROM PAGE ONE)

scored for the Penguins, who won their third in a row to tie New Jersey for the Atlantic Division lead with 75 points.

Michael Ryder and Roman Hamrlik scored third-period goals to put Montreal up 4-3 early in the third two nights after the Canadiens pulled off the biggest comeback in the storied franchise's history.

Saku Koivu and Chris Higgins also scored for Montreal, which overcame a 5-0 deficit Tuesday with five unanswered goals before Koivu scored in the shootout for a 6-5 win over the New York Rangers to extend their winning streak to four.

"I think at game time, going in, we thought we'd probably have to score at least six — I'm just kidding," Malone said. "We obviously respect their talent and their power play and we know if we opened up the game it was going to be a high-scoring game, and we tried to limit their chances and they still got four on us but we ended up getting the two points this time and it was nice."

The Canadiens, who also have 75 points, fell one point behind Ottawa for the Eastern Conference and Northeast Division leads.

'Malkin, who leads the league with 82 points, extended his points streak to 10 games with an assist as Whitney opened the scoring with his 12th goal.

Ruutu added an unassisted goal at 18:47 to put the Penguins up 2-0.

Koivu scored his 12th goal 3:27 into the second to draw Montreal within 2-1, before Malone restored Pittsburgh's two-goal lead with his 20th goal on a power play at 6:59.

Higgins scored a power-play goal late in the second to draw Montreal within 3-2. Ryder, who scored the Canadiens' first two goals Tuesday to launch the historic comeback, tied it at 3 with his 12th goal 21 seconds into the third.

Hamrlik gave the Canadiens their first lead of the game 3:25 into the third with Montreal's second power-play goal.

NOTES: Pittsburgh won its second in a row at the Bell Centre to split the season series. The Penguins, who won 2-0 in Montreal on Jan. 19, lost two home games to the Canadiens in October.

SPORTS HISTORY

30 Years Ago

Ringgold suffered one of the toughest losses in the school's history when Baldwin's George DelGreco hit a 15-foot jump shot wth four seconds left at Chartiers Valley to knock the Rams out of the playoffs, 63-61. Rick Webb and George Bandalo both had 14 points for the Rams.

Charleroi High senior Gary Deutsch won the 147-pound Sub-Novice Division title in the Golden Glove-Golden Belts at the Civic Arena with a second round TKO victory over Alleheny High's Jeff Tucker.

Reggie Allen, the first 1,000-yard passer in Monessen history, signed with Indiana State University of Terre Haute.

20 Years Ago

California University repeated as PSAC West regular season champ with an 85-75 victory over Lock Haven behind Darryl Norfleet's 28 points.

10 Years Ago

Rah-Shun Roberts scored 29 points and grabbed 18 rebounds in California University's 89-70 victory over Edinboro to clinch the Vulcans' seventh PSAC West title in the last 12 years.

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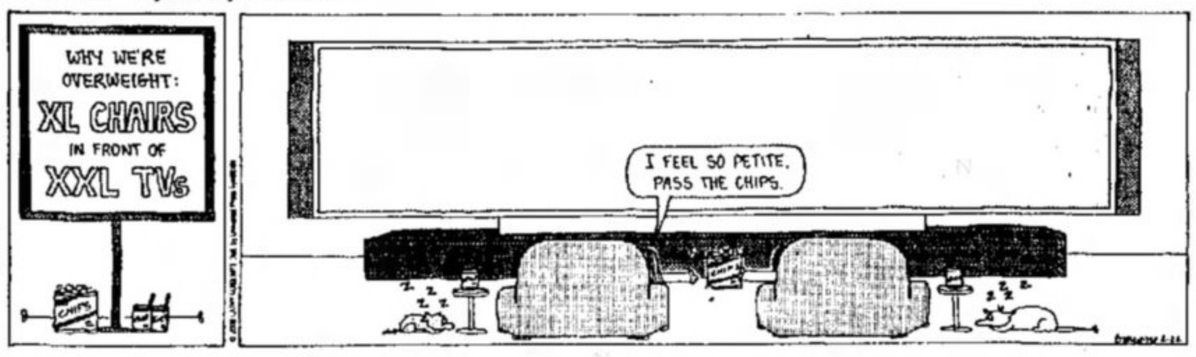

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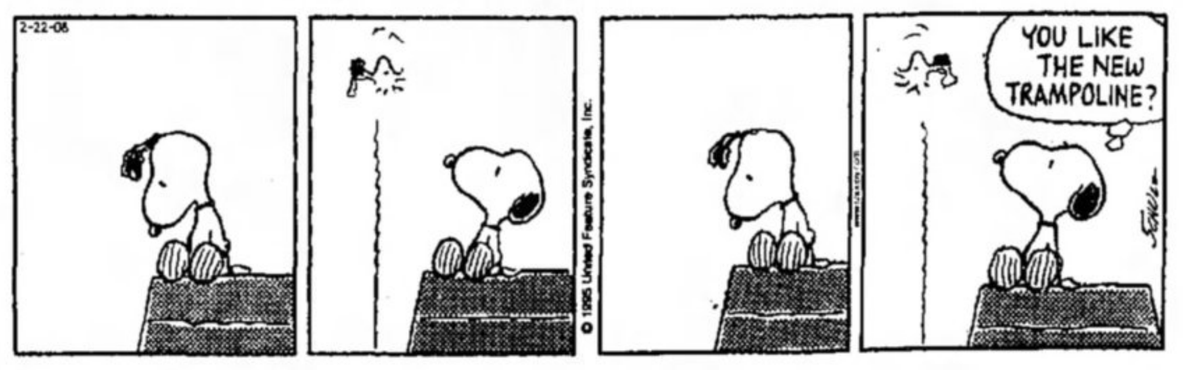
ARLO and JANIS® by Jimmy Johnson

Classic PEANUTS® by Charles M. Schulz



MONTY® by Jim Meddick

E-Mail: JimMeddick@aol.com

HI & LOIS® by Mort Walker and Dick Browne

BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker

MY WARP ALARM! MY TIMEPORTATION BACK TO 2525 WILL START SOON..
BEEP BEEP BEEP
BEFORE I GO, DO YOU HAVE ANY DAIRY PRODUCTS I COULD TAKE WITH ME?
UM... SURE. I...
WAIT. NOT SO FAST... IF YOU WANT DAIRY PRODUCTS SO BAD, WHAT'LL YOU GIVE US IN RETURN?
RIGHT... HMM... LET'S SEE...
OK, HERE'S A GRAVITRONIC BOTTLE OPENER. BUT BE CAREFUL... IF YOU HOLD THIS BUTTON TOO LONG YOU'LL CREATE A NEUTRINO VORTEX.
YOU WOULDN'T HAPPEN TO HAVE THE INSTRUCTION BOOKLET, WOULD YOU?

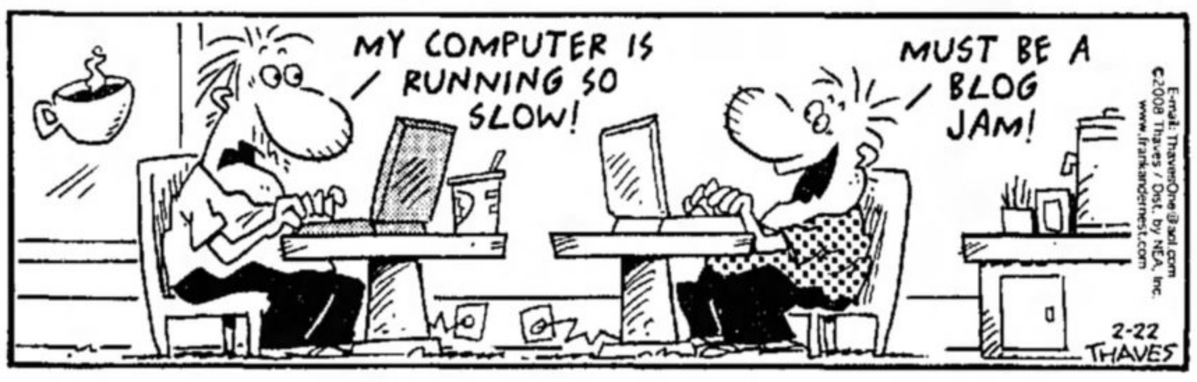
BORN LOSER® by Art Sansom

DO YOU HAVE DINNER RESERVATIONS? WE ARE QUITE BUSY.
I'M AFRAID WE DON'T— HOW LONG A WAIT IS THERE FOR A TABLE?
THERE IS, CURRENTLY, A FIFTEEN-DOLLAR WAIT.

GRIZZWELLS® by Bill Schorr

COW AND BOY® by Mark Leiknes

FRANK and ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



HERMAN® by Jim Unger

"You'll need a wide-angle lens for a self-portrait."

KIT'N' CARLYLE® by Larry Wright

kitncarlyle@comcast.net
I KNEW I SHOULD'VE EATEN IT AS A FISHSICLE INSTEAD OF TRYING TO THAW IT OUT.
2-22
www.comics.com
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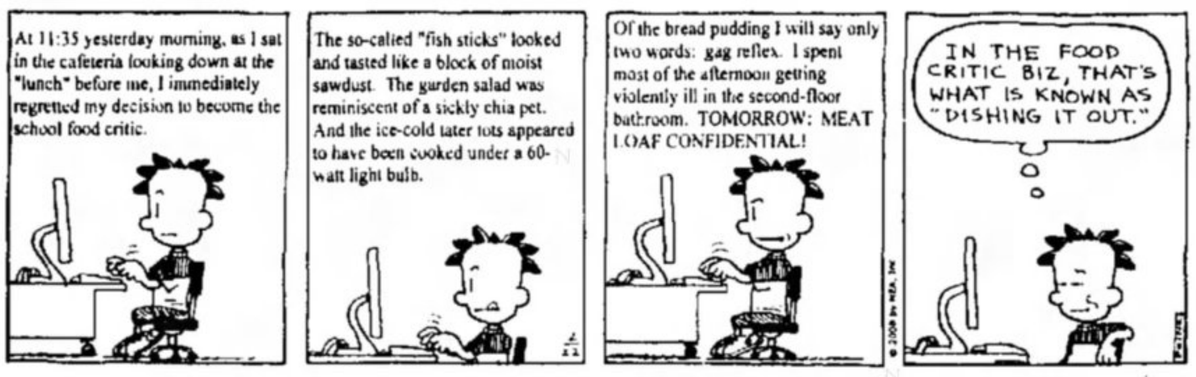
SOUP TO NUTZ™ by Rick Stromoski

HEY ROYBOY, DID YOU EVER WANNA GET BUNK BEDS?
IF WE DID, I GOT DIBS ON THE TOP..
WHY?
IN CASE ANY VOLCANOS ERUPT NEARBY, I'D BE SAFE FROM THE FLOWING LAVA...

BIG NATE® by Lincolin Peirce


At 11:35 yesterday morning, as I sat in the cafeteria looking down at the "lunch" before me, I immediately regretted my decision to become the school food critic.
The so-called "fish sticks" looked and tasted like a block of moist sawdust. The garden salad was reminiscent of a sickly chia pet. And the ice-cold tater tots appeared to have been cooked under a 60-watt light bulb.
Of the bread pudding I will say only two words: gag reflex. I spent most of the afternoon getting violently ill in the second-floor bathroom. TOMORROW: MEAT LOAF CONFIDENTIAL!
IN THE FOOD CRITIC BIZ, THAT'S WHAT IS KNOWN AS "DISHING IT OUT."

ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE, OOP? I HOPE YOU AREN'T PLAYING GAMES WITH OOOLA!
GAMES? NO, I'VE BEEN AWAY ON ONE OF MY TRIPS FOR DOC WONMUG, BUT I'M BACK NOW!
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN! I THOUGHT YOU WERE SICK! AT DEATH'S DOOR, AS I UNDERSTOOD!
2-22

MARK TRAIL® by Jack Elrod

LET'S GO, BRICE, IT DOESN'T TAKE THAT LONG TO UNTIE A ROPE!
JACK ELROD
I CAN'T GET THE ANCHOR ROPE LOOSE, I NEED SOME HELP!
THAT'S CLOSE ENOUGH!

THE VALLEY INDEPENDENT Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Pyramid builder
5 Task
8 Popinjay
11 Excuse
13 Not just my
14 Spanish gold
15 *Hombre's* title
16 Curtain holder
18 Small music makers
20 Ease
21 Silly trick
23 Travel on powder
24 Lime cooler
25 *Mrs. Charles*
27 Lab rat's challenge
31 Crooner — Damone
32 Valley
33 Major-leaguers
34 Cartoon shrieks
36 *Kruger* or Preminger
38 Obtained
39 Stratagem
40 Duffel filler
41 "Pulp Fiction" name
42 Creeping vine
44 Office machines
46 Have one's say
49 — *noire*
50 Amber wine
52 Wound down
56 Chuck Yeager, e.g.
57 Mae West role
58 Arthur Conan —
59 Thing, in law
60 Folk-song mule
61 Mr. *Diamond*

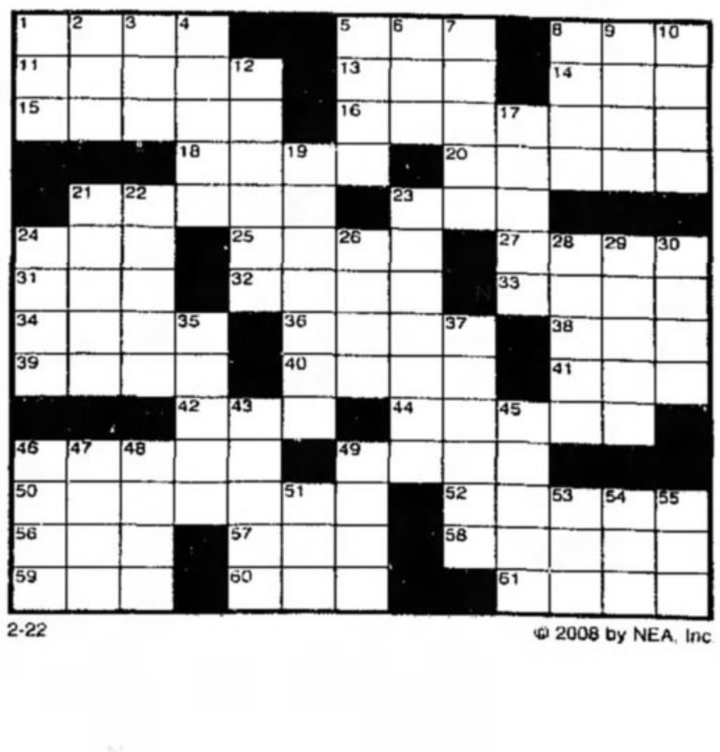
DOWN

1 Advanced degs.
2 Ginger —
3 — and yang
4 More or less
5 Scribbles
6 Pierre's yes
7 Tame a horse
8 Paddock youngster
9 Whale like Shamu
10 Snail-paced
12 Annoying
17 Zeppelin
19 Green science
21 "So long!"
22 Head supporters
23 Famous trail (2 wds.)
24 State firmly
26 Nerve network
28 Go at it
29 Travels quickly
30 Is, in Segovia
35 Trawler net
37 Gave an address
43 Nuns' headgear
45 Kin of neon
46 FitzGerald's poet
47 Runner's concern
48 Dangerous March date
49 Formal dance
51 Narrow inlet
53 Do Easter eggs
54 Yale athlete
55 Dolores — Rio

Answer to Previous Puzzle

	J	E	W	E	L			L	I	T	H	E
B	O	L	E	R	O		A	E	R	I	A	L
A	L	I	E	N	S		E	V	I	C	T	S
S	T	A	K	E		I	S	I	S			
			S	O	S	O		H	E	A	T	
	F	L	U		I	M	P	S		J	O	E
P	R	O	P	E	L			U	S	E	R	S
L	E	A	S	H			E	N	A	C	T	S
U	R	N		S	O	A	K		P	T	A	
M	E	S	A		V	I	E	D				
			A	X	E	D		A	T	L	A	S
H	I	G	H	E	R		S	T	R	A	T	A
O	R	I	E	N	T		P	E	A	K	E	D
P	A	N	D	A			A	S	P	E	N	

GET MORE in the new "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" series from Quill Driver. Call 800-605-7176.



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Fiancee feels she can't measure up to man's late wife

Dear **ABBY**

DEAR ABBY: I have been engaged to a widower I'll call "Grant" for about a year. Grant's wife, "Lilly," has been gone for 15 years. He talks about her frequently, which is OK with me. Lilly was an important part of his life for a long time.

My problem is, I feel I can never quite measure up to her. When we're out in public, he frequently refers to "his late wife," which makes me a bit uncomfortable. Recently he told me in conversation, "Do I wish I had never met you and Lilly was still alive? Absolutely!" It came out of the blue and hit me like a lead balloon.

I understand that Grant wishes his late wife were still alive, but did he have to say, "Do I wish I had never met you?" He is also critical of me and puts me down rather often. When I became upset about his comment, he acted like I was overreacting and overly sensitive.

I feel so hurt. I don't even know if I want to be with Grant anymore. Please give me some advice. My self-esteem is at an all-time low, and I am very depressed. — **UNDERVALUED IN PANAMA CITY, FLA.**

DEAR UNDERVALUED: Is it possible that your fiance's comment was in response to something you said to him? (Example: "Grant, you bring up Lilly so often it makes me feel like you wish you had never met me ...")

It appears your fiance isn't particularly sensitive to your feelings and isn't likely to change. However, what troubles me more about your letter than the fact that Grant lacks tact and often refers to his late wife — with whom he obviously had a lot of history — is the fact that he puts you down and then blames you for reacting.

If this is what you would tolerate in a husband, then you're a glutton for punishment.

DEAR ABBY: We recently invited friends to join us at a special event plus dinner. As plans are coming together, I find that their adult children and spouses have been invited to join us.

Am I wrong in thinking when you invite your friends to a special event, dinner, etc., that it's inconsiderate for them to ask other people to join the party?

If I had wanted to spend the evening with their children — or anybody else — I'd have included them, but I didn't. I wanted to spend the evening with the people with whom I initiated the plans.

I'm hoping my letter will be published and those folks will recognize themselves. I still plan to go and will grin and bear it, but it's frustrating. What is your advice? — **REALLY ANNOYED, ALBUQUERQUE, N.M.**

DEAR REALLY ANNOYED: Please do not rely too heavily on the people you mentioned reading your letter and recognizing themselves. Dear Abby readers are considerate, and the majority of them abide by the rules of etiquette — at least the majority of the time.

What your guests did was extremely presumptuous. Perhaps they don't recognize that their "children" are individuals and not simply extensions of themselves. You are a good sport to go along with their co-opting your evening, but the next time you invite them out, state plainly that you want it to be "just the four of you." No need to be nasty — just clarify.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Read The Valley Independent
online at
www.valleyindependent.com

FRIDAY EVENING — FEB. 22, 2008

	6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30	12AM	12:30	1AM	1:30	2AM	2:30
CBS (2) KDKA (7) WTRF (10) WTAJ	(2) (7) News (N)/ (10) WTAJ News at 6 (N)	(7) (10) CBS Evening News With Katie Couric (N)	(2) CBS Evening News-Couric/ (7) Entertainment/ (10) Inside	(2) The Insider (N)/ (7) Inside Edition/ (10) Two and a Half Men	The Price Is Right Million Dollar Spectacular Contestant may win $1 million. (N)		Ghost Whisperer "Unhappy Medium" Melinda looks into the disappearance of a young socialite.		NUMB3RS "In Security" A woman in the Witness Protection Program is gunned down in her home.		(2) (7) News (N)/ (10) WTAJ News at 11 (N)	Late Show With David Letterman Sean "Diddy" Combs; Al Lubel. (N)		The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson Fred Willard. (N)		(2) Extra/ (7) The Insider/ (10) Everybody Loves Raymond "Not So Fast"	(2) Paid/ (7) That '70s Show/ (10) Air Force One (1997)	(2) Paid/ (7) H2O Vac V 4C
ABC (4) WTAE (23) WATM	(4) News/ (23) The Insider Celebrities discuss politics.	ABC's World News With Charles Gibson (N)	(4) Inside Edition/ (23) Jeopardy! (N)	(4) Entertainment Tonight/ (23) Wheel of Fortune	Grey's Anatomy "Physical Attraction... Chemical Reaction" George and Izzie's romantic chemistry.		20/20 (N)		20/20: What Would You Do? (N)		(4) Ch. 4 Action News at 11 (N)/ (23) News (N)	Nightline (N)	Jimmy Kimmel Live Damon Wayans; Sam Champion. (N)		(4) Oprah Winfrey/ (23) Paid	(23) Paid	(4) Paid/ (23) Jerry Springer (N)	(4) Ch. 4 Action News at 11
NBC (6) WJAC (9) WTOV (11) WPXI	News (N)	NBC Nightly News (N)	(6) Entertainment Tonight The Academy Awards. (N)/ (9) (11) Jeopardy! (N)	(6) Who Wants to Be a Millionaire (N)/ (9) (11) Wheel of Fortune (N)	1 vs. 100 A woman from Chicago returns; a Californian challenges the mob. (Season Finale) (N)		Amne$ia (Series Premiere) (N)		Dateline NBC The Natalie Holloway case. (N)		News (N)	The Tonight Show With Jay Leno Colin Farrell; Bill O'Reilly. (N)		Late Night With Conan O'Brien Nathan Lane; Secondhand Serenade. (N)		Last Call With Carson Daly Ivana Milicevic. (N)	Poker After Dark Doyle Brunson; Chris Ferguson; Chau Giang; Andy Bloch; Hoyt Corkins; Gabe Kaplan. (N)	
FOX (8) WWCP (53) WPGH	(8) The Simpsons/ (53) Two and a Half Men	(8) That '70s Show/ (53) Frasier	(8) The Simpsons/ (53) Two and a Half Men	Seinfeld Jerry stops kissing friends hello.	Bones "The Girl in the Fridge" A girl's decomposed remains are found in a refrigerator.		House "Forever" A mother and her son are in grave danger.		(8) News (N)/ (53) Channel 11 News on FOX 53 at 10	(8) Seinfeld Jerry is asked to visit a sick fan.	(8) The King of Queens/ (53) Seinfeld	(8) Frasier/ (53) Scrubs	(8) Species II/ (53) Scrubs Residents compete for a trip.	(53) Paid	(53) Paid	(53) Paid	(8) Digestion Techniques/ (53) Sex and-City	(8) Breathe Better/ (53) Cheaters
(13) WQED	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Nightly Business Report	OffQ	Washington Week (N)	NOW on PBS (N)	Bill Moyers Journal (N)		Slavery and the Making of America		Charlie Rose (N)		OffQ	Tavis Smiley (N)	Torchbearers Civil rights pioneers.		Mystery! "Foyle's War III: Enemy Fire"	
(19) WPCW	The People's Court (N)		Everybody-Raymond	Everybody-Raymond	WWE Friday Night SmackDown! No Way Out PPV results. Plus, Rey Mysterio's emotional farewell address. (N)				The 10 O'Clock News	The Nightly Sports Call	Malcolm in the Middle	According to Jim	That '70s Show	King of the Hill	South Park	Paid	Paid	Paid
(22) WPMY	The Simpsons	Family Guy	The Simpsons	Family Guy	★★ Hendrix (2000)				TMZ (N)	Frasier	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Paid	Paid	Bernie Mac	My Wife-Kids	Half & Half	Half & Half
(40) WPCB	The 700 Club		Focus 4		Belle & the Beast: A Christian Romance		Life Message		In Touch-Dr. Charles Stanley		CBN News	Richard and Lindsay Roberts	TV One Life	The Zone	Extreme Life	Ultimate	Pure Passion	
(59) WBGN	Temptation	Temptation	Degrassi	Reno 911!	The Nanny	Mad Abt. You	Canadian Rockies Sports		ReGenesis "Dim & Dimmer"		Reno 911!	Blind Date	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
A&E	Cold Case Files		CSI: Miami "Spring Break"		CSI: Miami "From the Grave"		CSI: Miami		CSI: Miami "Prey"		The Sopranos		CSI: Miami "From the Grave"		CSI: Miami		CSI: Miami "Prey"	
ABCFAM	★★ Nutty Professor II: The Klumps (2000)				★★ Nutty Professor II: The Klumps (2000)				Funniest Home Videos		The 700 Club		Whose Line?	Whose Line?	Paid	Paid	Paid	Paid
AMC	★★★½ *Die Hard* (1988)				★★★½ *Terminator 2: Judgment Day* (1991)						★★★★ Planet of the Apes (1968)					★★½ The Poseidon Adventure (1972)		
ANPL	The Crocodile Hunter		Eaten Alive		Lemur King.	Lemur King.	Chimp Eden	Clinically Wild	Animal Precinct		Lemur King.	Lemur King.	Chimp Eden	Clinically Wild	Animal Precinct		Eaten Alive	
BBC	Ramsay's Kitchen Nightmares		BBC World News America		Coupling	Coupling		Mitchell-Webb	BBC World News America		Coupling	Coupling		Mitchell-Webb	★★★ Casino Royale (1967)			
BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live (N)			BET Honors	The BET Honors (N)				Top 25 Heartaches		Malcolm	Malcolm	Jamie Foxx	Jamie Foxx	Comicview		BET Late	
BRAVO	Make Me a Supermodel		Make Me a Supermodel		The Millionaire Matchmaker		The Millionaire Matchmaker		★½ Friday the 13th, Part 2 (1981)				★★½ The Ninth Gate (1999)					Hot! Hot! Hot!
CMT	Redneck Wed	Gone Country	Gone Country	Gone Country	Gone Country	Home Videos	Redneck Wed	Truck	Gone Country		Gone Country	Gone Country	Gone Country	Gone Country	Truck	My Truck	CMT Music	
CNBC	Mad Money		Kudlow & Company		Fast Money	Net Worth	The Suze Orman Show		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money		The Suze Orman Show		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Paid	Paid
CNN	*The Situation Room*		*Lou Dobbs Tonight*		*CNN Election Center*		*Larry King Live* (N)		Anderson Cooper 360				*Larry King Live*		Anderson Cooper 360		Anderson Cooper 360	
COM	★½ Juwanna Mann (2002)		Scrubs	Scrubs	Daily Show	Colbert	Futurama	Futurama	Presents	Presents	Presents	Presents	Presents	South Park	Dave Chappelle: For What It's Worth			Chappelle
COURT	Wildest Police Videos		Cops	Cops	Most Shocking		Forensic Files	Forensic Files	The Investigators		The Investigators		Most Shocking		Forensic Files	Forensic Files	The Investigators	
CSPAN	House of Rep.	Tonight From Washington			Presidential Libraries: History Uncovered				Tonight From Washington		Presidential Libraries: History Uncovered				Capital News Today		Today in Washington	
DISC	Cash Cab	Cash Cab	How It's Made	How It's Made	Survivorman		Man vs. Wild "Patagonia"		Fight Quest "Israel" (N)		Fight Quest "Brazil"		Survivorman		Man vs. Wild "Patagonia"		Fight Quest "Israel"	
DISNEY	Zack & Cody	Zack & Cody	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	★★ Max Keeble's Big Move (2001)				That's-Raven	Life Derek	Zack & Cody	Han. Montana	Replacements	Kim Possible	Emperor New	Dragon	Buzz Light	Timon
E!	Cash Queens of Music		E! News (N)	The Daily 10	Heath Ledger	Snoop Father	Girl Next Door	Girl Next Door	The Soup (N)	Snoop Father	E! News	Chelsea	The Daily 10	Heath Ledger	SNL Remembers Chris Farley		E! News	Chelsea
ESPN	SportsCenter			NBA	*NBA Basketball Washington Wizards at Cleveland Cavaliers.*					*NBA Basketball Boston Celtics at Phoenix Suns.*					SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
ESPNC	College Basketball		American Gladiators		Boxing		60 Min.	60 Min.	Who's Number 1?		Bull Riding: PRCA		The Ray Mancini Story		Wrestling	Wrestling	Cheap Seats	Arliss
ESPN2	NASCAR Now	Rome-Burning	College Basketball Davidson at Winthrop.				Boxing Friday Night Fights.				SportsCenter		NFL Live (N)	Gamenight	NASCAR Now	Tape Tour	NBA Basketball	
EWTN	Divine	Cathedrals Across America			The World Over		Worth Living	Holy Rosary	Defending	Reasons	Rome Reports	Holy Land	Daily Mass: Our Lady		The World Over		Worth Living	Defending
FNC	Special Report		Fox Report-Shepard Smith		The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity & Colmes		On the Record-Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity & Colmes		On the Record-Van Susteren		Special Report	
FOOD	Minute Meals	Minute Meals	Emeril Live Roman recipes.		Good Eats	Tasty Travels	Diner, Drive-In	Diner, Drive-In	Paula's Party Gloria Gaynor.		Good Eats	Unwrapped	Diner, Drive-In	Diner, Drive-In	Paula's Party Gloria Gaynor.		Good Eats	Unwrapped
FSN	Final Score	Savran on SportsBeat		Pens Rewind	Sport Science		Hooters Dream Girl II		SportsBeat	Final Score	Hooters Dream Girl II		Final Score	Hooters Dream Girl II		Pens Rewind	Final Score	Final Score
FX	'70s Show	'70s Show	★★ *Are We There Yet?* (2005)				★★ *Are We There Yet?* (2005)				*Nip/Tuck* "Candy Richards"		★★ Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back (2001)				Paid	Paid
GOLF	Post Game	LPGA Tour Golf Fields Open in Hawaii -- Second Round.			PGA Tour Golf WGC Accenture Match Play Championship — Day 3.							PGA Tour Golf Mayakoba Classic — Second Round.				Golf Central	LPGA Tour Golf	
GSN	Lingo	Whammy	Weakest Link		Be a Millionaire		Family Feud	Family Feud	Tell the Truth	Tell the Truth	Lingo	Whammy	Be a Millionaire		Trivia Trap	Now You See	High Stakes Poker	
HALL	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Walker, Texas Ranger		Walker, Texas Ranger		Love Comes Softly (2003)				Murder, She Wrote		Murder, She Wrote		Walker, Texas Ranger		Walker, Texas Ranger	
HGTV	Extreme	If Walls Could	House Worth?	House	Designed-Sell	Save My Bath	My Kitchen	Find Style	House	House	Get It Sold	Parents	Designed-Sell	Save My Bath	My Kitchen	Find Style	House	House
HIST	Mega Disasters		Modern Marvels		Modern Marvels		Shockwave (N)		Ancient Discoveries		Prostitution: Sex in the City		Modern Marvels		Shockwave		Ancient Discoveries	
LIFE	Reba	Reba	Still Standing	Still Standing	Reba	Reba	★★½ Jersey Girl (2004)				Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Frasier	Frasier	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	The Nanny	Paid
MSNBC	*Tucker*		*Hardball*		*Countdown-Olbermann*		*MSNBC Investigates*		*Lockup: Raw*		*Predator Raw: Unseen Tapes*		*Countdown-Olbermann*		*MSNBC Investigates*		*Predator Raw: Unseen Tapes*	
MTV	True Life		True Life		True Life		True Life		True Life		True Life		Real World-Road Rules		Real World-Road Rules		MTV's Most Valuable Players	
NICK	Drake & Josh	Drake & Josh	SpongeBob	SpongeBob	The Fairly OddParents		Barnyard	Barnyard	George Lopez	George Lopez	Home Imp.	Home Imp.	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	George Lopez	George Lopez	Home Imp.	Home Imp.
OXY	Bad Girls	Bad Girls	★★★★ When Harry Met Sally (1989)				★★★★ When Harry Met Sally (1989)				Lipstick Jungle		The Tyra Banks Show		★★★ There Are No Children Here (1993)			
PCN	PCN Tours		PA Public Affairs										PCN Tours		PCN Profiles		Deutsche Welle News	
PCNC	Lynn Cullen Show Talk show.		News	News	NightTalk: Get to the Point		News		NightTalk With Ann Devlin		Honsberger	Fedko Fone	News			Paid	NightTalk With Ann Devlin	
SCIFI	Stargate SG-1		Stargate SG-1		Chuck		Stargate Atlantis Mentor.		Stargate Atlantis (N)		Stargate SG-1 "New Order"		Stargate Atlantis		Stargate SG-1 "Prometheus"		Stargate Atlantis "The Seer"	
SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.		*CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.*		*CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.*		*When Animals Attack IV*		*Most Amazing Videos*		*Disorderly Conduct: Video*		MXC	MXC	GameTrailers	GameTrailers	Bullrun	
TBS	Friends	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	★★ Bewitched (2005)				Sex and-City	Sex and-City	★★ Jungle 2 Jungle (1997)				★★½ The Goonies (1985)	
TCM	★★★ The Fortune Cookie (1966)				★★★ Heaven Can Wait (1978)		★★★½ The Goodbye Girl (1977)					★★★½ Manhattan (1979)				★★ Love Story (1970)		
TLC	Property Ladder		Home Chef	Home Chef	Say Yes to the Dress		What Not to Wear "Go Red"		10 Years Younger (N)		What Not to Wear "Go Red"		Say Yes to the Dress		10 Years Younger		Home Chef	Home Chef
TNT	Law & Order		Law & Order "Bounty"		★★ Blade: Trinity (2004) Blade and a pair of vampire slayers battle Dracula.				★★½ Blade II (2002)					★★½ Land of the Dead (2005)			★★ The Amityville Horror	
TOON	Camp Lazlo	Foster	Chowder	George	Jimmy's Head	Foster	Camp Lazlo	George	Chowder	Jimmy's Head	Family Guy	Family Guy	Chicken	Full-Alchemist	Ghost in Shell	Eureka 7	Family Guy	Family Guy
TRAVEL	Haunted Hotels		Investigations of Unexplained		Europe-Brown	Europe-Brown	Weird Travels "Bigfoot"		Most Haunted		World's Strangest Remains		Europe-Brown	Europe-Brown	Weird Travels "Bigfoot"		Most Haunted	
TVLAND	Bev. Hillbillies	Bev. Hillbillies	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	I Love Lucy	I Love Lucy	I Love Lucy	I Love Lucy	★★★ *The Breakfast Club* (1985)				Just Shoot	Just Shoot	Bev. Hillbillies	Bev. Hillbillies	*Sanford*	*Jeffersons*
USA	Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Monk		Law & Order: SVU		Monk (Season Finale) (N)		Law & Order: SVU		House "Don't Ever Change"		Monk		★★★ Training Day (2001)			
VH1	★★★ 8 Mile (2002) A Detroit man tries to achieve success as a rapper.					Celebrity Rehab		Free Radio	Scott Baio Is 46... Pregnant		My Fair Brady	Free Radio	The Flavor of Love		Salt N Pepa	Celebrity Rehab		Free Radio
VS.	North-Alaska	Outdoor	Fisherman	Grigsby	Hunt-Big Fish	City Limits	Tred Barta	Dollar Fly	Field Sports	Quest for One	Cycling: Tour of California		Tred Barta	Dollar Fly	Field Sports	Quest for One	Fisherman	Grigsby
WE	★★★ The Birdcage (1996)				Ugliest House on the Block		Ugliest House on the Block		Ugliest House on the Block		Danielle Steel's Mixed Blessings (1995)				Ugliest House on the Block		Ugliest House on the Block	
WGN	Funniest Pets	Funniest Pets	Funniest Home Videos		★½ Air Bud: Golden Receiver (1998)				Funniest Home Videos		Scrubs	Scrubs	Chappelle's	Chappelle's	Reno 911!	Reno 911!	Reno 911!	Corner Gas
ENC	★★½ Rounders (1998)				★★½ Uncle Buck (1989)				★★★ Scream (1996)			★★½ Army of Darkness (1992)			★★★ Find Me Guilty (2006)			
HBO	Star Wars	★½ Date Movie (2006)			The Wire "Took"		In Treatment	In Treatment	Entourage	Entourage	Real Time With Bill Maher	Comedy Jam	★½ Code Name: The Cleaner (2007)				★★ Beerfest (2006)	
MAX	★★ Final Destination 3 (2006)			Editor's Room	★★★ Happy Feet (2006)				★★½ X-Men: The Last Stand (2006)			Sin City	Girl From B.I.K.I.N.I. (2007)				★★ The Omen (2006)	
SHOW	Night-Roxbury	★★½ Nacho Libre (2006)				★★½ Crank (2006)			The L Word Oil wrestling.		★★★ The Hand That Rocks the Cradle (1992)				★★½ Beautiful Girls (1996)			
STARZ	★★ Stay Alive (2006)			★★½ Fun With Dick & Jane (2005)			★★¼ Vacancy (2007)			★★★ Tombstone (1993)					★★ RV (2006)			Head Case
TMC	★★½ The Weather Man (2005)				★★ I Love Your Work (2003)				★½ Shameless (1995)			.45 (2006)				★★½ Last Holiday (2006)		

FEATURES

Frugal Living

How much do you save by air-drying?

Sara **NOEL**

DEAR SARA: I have started to hang up a couple of loads each week on a clothesline rather than throwing them in the dryer. I was wondering how much money I save by doing this. Do you have any idea how much money it costs per hour to run an electric dryer? I realize that utility rates are higher in different parts of the country, but I'm looking for a rough amount. — **Kay, Louisiana**

DEAR KAY: Your utility company's Web site might have a list of how much appliances cost to operate. You can calculate this yourself, too. You need to know the amount of power your dryer consumes. You can find this information either in your manual or on the model tag. It will be reflected in watts. If it's listed in amps and volts, then remember that amps x volts = watts. You need to know how much your electricity costs, so check a recent bill. You need to know how long (in hours) you use the dryer each week, too. So your math will be: kilowatts x kilowatt-hour price x hours = cost per week.

DEAR SARA: I've been living with a bed without a headboard for years. I feel it's time for a big-girl bedroom, but I don't have a fortune to spend. Any ideas? — **Alana F., Nebraska**

DEAR ALANA: Without knowing the style in your room, I'll share some ideas that lean toward a casual look. Headboards don't have to be expensive. You can make a padded headboard using plywood, batting and fabric. Use a staple gun to attach the batting and fabric in place. You can use materials like door panels, a trellis or picket fencing as backdrops, too. A great way to decorate is to give the illusion of a headboard by painting a pattern, hanging a quilt, using arranged artwork or window frames, or frame that section with either wallpaper border or molding. You can then paint the framed section a different color than the rest of your room or use a scenic mural. Other options include using a decorative curtain rod and suspending either artwork or decorated grapevine wreaths with ribbon, or try a coronet bed drape.

DEAR SARA: I'm a stay-at-home mom who's looking for new activities to do with my daughter. She's preschool age but attends school twice a week. I can handle only so much coloring and painting, and there's never enough time for my housework. Help! — **Liz, Ohio**

DEAR LIZ: There are many activities for that age, but I'll share some that are easy, cheap and fun. My kids love balloons. I cut foam pool noodles in half, and they play hockey inside with the pool noodles and balloons. We've played balancing games with pool noodles, too. Place a beanbag on top of a pool noodle that is held upright and see how far she can walk before the beanbag falls. You can play basketball inside with empty plastic coffee cans and nylon bath scrubbies. These scrubbies are great for teaching kids to catch and throw, too. If you need a few minutes to do dishes, you can set her up next to you with a dishpan filled with soapy water and coins. Give her a toothbrush or a nylon scrubbie to scrub with, and that can keep her busy while you're cleaning, too. If you need a few more minutes, give her a sponge, microfiber cloth or nylon scrubbie and let her "clean" in the kitchen.

Sara Noel is the owner of Frugal Village (www.frugalvillage.com), a Web site that offers practical, money-saving strategies for everyday living. To send tips, comments or questions, write to Sara Noel, c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th Floor, New York, NY 10016, or e-mail sara@frugalvillage.com

CALENDAR WATCH

Saturday

- Flea market, bake and soup sale, River Hill Church of Christ, Forward Township, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Pirohi sale, Holy Trinity Orthodox Church, California, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- One-day self-defense course, Ringgold High School, 2 to 3 p.m. and 3 to 4 p.m.
- Mardi Gras/Karaoke Night, Monongahela 455 Elks, 8 p.m. to midnight.
- Fish fry, Wayman-Quinn A.M.E. Church, Monessen, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- "A Celebration of Gospel," Bethel A.M.E. Church, Greensburg, 4 p.m.

VALLEY GRAPEVINE

Pancake supper set in Star Junction

The Star Junction Fish and Game Club will host a pancake supper 4 to 7 p.m. Sunday.

Spaghetti dinner set at Speers U.M.

A spaghetti dinner will be held 12:30 to 2 p.m. Sunday at the Speers United Methodist Church, 810 Jane Ave., Charleroi. Takeouts will be available.

Job and internship fair set April 3

More than 150 companies and organizations plan to recruit college students and graduates for internships and full-time jobs at the West-PACS Job & Internship Fair 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 3 at the Pittsburgh Expo Mart, Monroeville. The fair is sponsored by the Western Pennsylvania Association of Career Services (WestPACS). Employers can register online at www.westpacs.org until March 14. Students and graduates of a WestPACS member college or university can preregister at no charge online at www.westpacs.org until March 31. Walk-ins and job seekers from non-WestPACS member colleges and universities are welcome to attend and register the day of the fair for a nominal fee, cash only.

BVA boosters to meet Tuesday

The Belle Vernon Area Band Parents and Boosters organization will meet 7 p.m. Tuesday in the high school music room.

Authority to meet in Charleroi

The Authority of the Borough of Charleroi will have a board meeting 4 p.m. Tuesday at the authority office.

VALLEY CLUB NOTES

Mon Valley Veterans Council

The Mon Valley Veterans Council held its first meeting of the year at the Monongahela Veterans of Foreign Wars building Feb. 13 with Walter Corey presiding.

Corey opened the meeting with a prayer offered by Al Reichel, followed by the flag salute. Answering to the roll call were representatives from Finleyville American Legion Post 613, Carroll Township American Legion Post 949, Monongahela VFW Post 1409, Monessen VFW Post 1190, Mon Valley Shipmates, and Mon Valley Leathernecks.

Minutes of the last meeting were read by Acting Secretary Ray Evans and the financial report was given by Acting Financial Officer Bill Fawcett. A brief discussion ensued about filling the offices of secretary and treasurer. Finally a motion was made and seconded to nominate Barry Grimm as secretary of the council. Grimm was elected to the office of secretary by a unanimous vote of the council. The office of treasurer is still open.

Doug Campbell, commander of the Monessen VFW, was asked if his organization would like to be a part of the Mon Valley Veterans Council. He agreed, and a unanimous vote was cast by the council members to accept Monessen VFW Post 1190 as a member.

A motion was also made to make a monetary donation to the Mon Valley Community Ambulance Service.

Preliminary plans were discussed for the Memorial Day activities, which will take place May 26. There being no further business, the council adjourned. A light lunch followed.

PROJECT OF THE WEEK

Grandfather clock is traditional heirloom

Nothing says "family heirloom" like a grandfather clock. And when grandfather is the one who actually built the clock, it's really something unique. If you're a woodworker looking for a truly special project, this do-it-yourself grandfather clock—with its traditional good looks and elegant design—just might fit the bill.

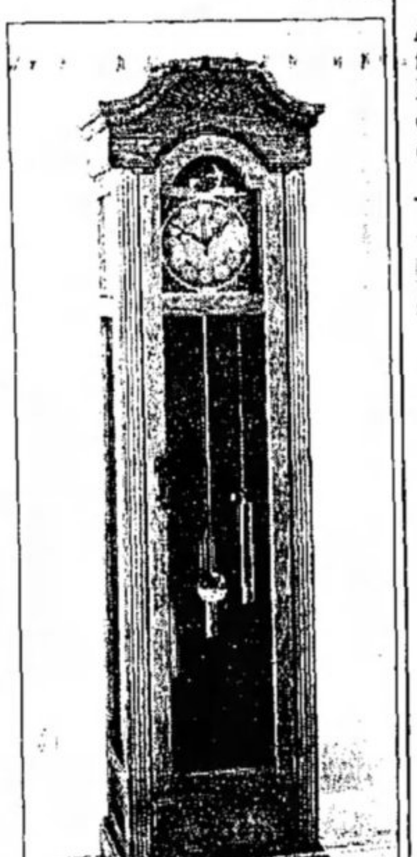
Built from oak (as pictured; other species will also work), the clock stands an imposing six feet tall. Its classic design is complemented by the familiar Westminster clock movement, which mimics the chimes of London's Big Ben.

While the project does require an investment of time and attention to detail, it's easy enough for most woodworkers. The case is essentially a simple box, and the curved cuts for the crown and decorative plaque are traced from full-size patterns.

Once the case is built, the decorative details (which give the effect of dimensional moulding by using multiple layers of wood) are added and a quartz clock movement is installed. To finish, stain and seal are applied and glass is installed in the door and side panels.

The Grandfather Clock plan, No. 935, is $9.95 and includes complete step-by-step directions with photos, full-size traceable patterns, a shopping list and cutting schedule, a mail-order source for the clock movement and a toll-free help line for project questions.

A package of three case clock plans, No. C157, is $22.95 and includes plans for this grandfather clock, a Craftsman-style grandfather clock and smaller-scale "granddaughter" clock. A free catalog picturing dozens of do-it-yourself projects is also available. Please include $4 for postage and handling and allow about two weeks for delivery.



Grandfather clock

To order by mail, clip this article and send it with a check or money order to U-Bild Features, c/o *The Valley Independent*, 3800 Oceanic Drive, Ste. 107, Oceanside, CA 92056. To order by credit card, call 1-800-828-2453. Visit U-Bild on the web at u-bild.com.

ODDS & ENDS

Curiosity didn't kill this cat

PHOENIX (AP) — A cat who took a three-week cross-country ride to Arizona in a storage container is headed home to Florida.

Arizona Humane Society officials say the 2-year-old gray cat crawled into the locker in Pompano Beach, Fla., while a man loaded it for a move to Phoenix.

The container spent time in a Florida warehouse and on a semitrailer before being delivered to a Phoenix facility.

A worker heard a cat meowing inside the container Tuesday. The cat, named Meatloaf, was hungry and thirsty but unharmed. The man who was moving remembered a similar cat near his old apartment.

Meatloaf's owners had put up posters around their neighborhood. The apartment manager remembered them when Humane Society called.

Canadian who returned dog gets reward then is accused of dognapping

TORONTO (AP) — At first, a Canadian was considered a hero for returning a missing dog to its heartsick owner. Now he's accused of dognapping.

A dog walker left Huckleberry tied up outside a Toronto bakery on Saturday. A few minutes later, the chocolate lab was gone.

The owner, Bert Clark, offered a reward of about $15,000 for Hauckleberry's return. Then late Sunday, 54-year-old Richard Cassibo showed up with the dog.

Authorities say Cassibo accepted a check for about $10,000 and asked Clark to donate the rest to an animal hospital.

On Wednesday, police said they charged Cassibo and an alleged co-conspirator Andrew Footit with conspiracy, corruptly taking a reward, possession of property obtained by crime and attempted fraud.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

Today's clue: E equals P

"I J V A R C L H R J L R V L T M L C M V U

B F H Y F V F J B H R J L T M F U T J R V Y L T

C J E L H C ; V F J C J R V H R H T V F J F L T M R

U P Z U M ." - Z J U C Z J B L R F H T Z V U T

PREVIOUS SOLUTION — "I love feeling alive; I love walking out in the cold in my bare feet and feeling the ice on my toes." - Tori Amos

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The American Croatian Club
4th St. & Castner Avenue • Donora, PA
724-379-4871
EAT IN or TAKE OUT
4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Menu for Saturday, February 23, 2008
Veal-Stuffed Banana Peppers
Stuffed Shells
Chicken Parmesan
Spaghetti & Meatballs
Porkette Sandwich
Grilled Chicken Sandwich

Belle Vernon MOOSE
SAT., FEB. 23rd 9PM-?
Karaoke Plus WITH DENNIS
BROAD AVE. • BELLE VERNON

PNA "The Place to Be" www.pnal146.com
214 Knox Ave. Monessen 724-684-3661
Coming Next Week
Leap Year Party
Friday, February 29th
Members & Their Guests Welcome

Hey Andy! SPORTS BAR and RESTAURANT
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD
White Rose Karaoke
1221 W. MAIN MONONGAHELA 724-258-4755

Come Join Us At Bowties LOUNGE
FEBRUARY 23, 2008
FOR 80's NIGHT
WITH DJ KIM
9PM-2AM
Holiday Inn
Belle Vernon I-70 & Rt. 51
724-929-4600
www.holiday-inn.com/bellevernon

BINGO
ROSCOE VOLUNTEER FIRE CO.
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND
20 REGULAR GAMES AT 125
(IF 160 OR MORE ARE PRESENT)
JACKPOT 2200 IN 56#'S OR LESS
• 1000 MUST GO CONSOLATION PRIZE
• 1 Magic Number
• Double Bingo Jackpot 400 In 14 Or Less
• Cookie Jar 100+
• Starburst 1675 Total
Early Bird 7:00 p.m.
Regular Game 7:15 p.m.
$10 ADMISSION INCLUDES 8-ON PAPER OR 2 HARDCARDS 1 EXTRA 4 ONS NO LIMIT
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MONESSEN HILLTOP FIREMAN'S
Friday, February 22nd
DJ Steve
10 P.M. - CLOSE
Saturday, February 23rd
DJ STAN THE MAN
10 P.M. - CLOSE
EVERY WEDNESDAY
BAR BINGO
8 P.M. - 10 P.M.
MEMBERS & THEIR GUEST WELCOME

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!
ROSTRAVER ICE GARDENS
PRESENTS: JAMIE HARRIS
Elvis Tribute Artist
Shadows of the King
SAT., FEB. 23, 2008
DOORS OPEN AT 7:30PM • SHOW STARTS AT 8PM
TICKETS $12.00
TICKETS ARE FIRST COME FIRST SERVE!
Tickets Available At The Door
CASH BAR/SNACK BAR AVAILABLE
HEARING AND SEEING IS BELIEVING!

NEWS

Denny and Ellen Durka, of Donora, took *The Valley Independent* on vacation to Hell, George Town, Grand Caymen Island.

Levdansky seeks Democratic nod

State Rep. David Levdansky is is seeking the Democratic nomination for the 39th Legislative District.

Levdansky

"I offer the people of the 39th District a proven record of performance and leadership," the Forward Township Democrat said. "They deserve a seasoned voice on the front lines in Harrisburg, making sure their needs are met.

"My open-door policy with constituents – coupled with my senior role in lawmaking in Harrisburg – makes sure every community in the 39th District is considered when we're developing legislation and crafting funding proposals.

"I've developed a strong record of reform to make government more open to the people it represents, to make our tax structures fairer for homeowners and businesses, and make environmental and community programs work for the 39th District."

Levdansky is the House Finance Committee chairman.

The candidate said that position makes him the leading proponent of property tax cuts.

Levdansky said that as majority party chairman, he shepherded to House votes on reform measures to cut property taxes and shift the cost of public education through sales and income taxes and slots revenues.

Levdansky said he:

■ Authored a law that waives the $52 Local Services Tax upfront for low-income people.

The tax, previously was taken in a lump sum and people earning less than $12,000 yearly had to seek reimbursements.

■ Crafted a law that identifies loopholes in the tax code.

■ Introduced bills to limit campaign contributions in state and local elections and provide greater access to campaign contribution information.

■ Authored the motor-voter law that makes it easier for people to vote.

■ Authored a bill to amend the state constitution to exempt the full value of all homesteads and farmsteads from property taxation.

Levdansky said that as second-highest ranking Democrat on the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee, he has worked to obtain money for the Forward Township fly ash cleanup.

Levdansky said he is a member of the House Game and Fisheries committees.

A member and treasurer of the Legislative Budget and Finance Committee, Levdansky said he is leading an effort for an independent audit of the Pennsylvania Game Commission's deer management program.

"Then we can have an informed debate about where we are and what we need to do to make it better," Levdansky said.

Levdansky said he has made just one campaign promise.

"I would work full-time with no other outside job to protect, defend and promote the public's interest to the best of my ability," he said.

First elected in 1985, Levdansky said he had obtained millions of dollars for water and sewer projects, fire and ambulance companies, public libraries, recreational projects, and community development activities.

Levdansky holds bachelor's degrees from Penn State University in labor studies and political science. He received a master's degree in economics from Notre Dame University:

He is a member of St. Michael Parish, East Monongahela Sportsmen's Club, Polish National Alliance and the Croatian Fraternal Union.

Levdansky has three children: Shane, 29; Timothy, 16; and Joseph, 13.

MAKING THE GRADE

Lewis makes Waynesburg list

Tonya L. Lewis, of Finleyville, has been named to the fall-semester dean's list at Waynesburg University.

A junior biology major, she is a Ringgold High School graduate.

Reho receives Penn State degree

Michael Reho, of Monroeville, received a bachelor's degree in mechanical and nuclear engineering from The Pennsylvania State University.

A 2003 Yough High School graduate, he is the son of James and Diane Reho, of Smithton. He works in the nuclear operations group for Westinghouse.

Lazar makes Waynesburg list

Thomas V. Lazar, of Belle Vernon, was named to the fall-semester dean's list at Waynesburg University.

A communications and electronic media graduate, he is a Greensburg Central Catholic High School graduate.

Trombley reaches eagle scout rank

He helped to improve the Washington Township fire hall.

Ryan Trombley, of Boy Scout Troop 1561 in Washington Township, has achieved the rank of eagle scout.

It is the highest rank in Scouting.

In completing his eagle scout project, Ryan landscaped and cleaned the area around the Washington Township fire and social hall.

The project took 168 hours to complete.

With help from eight fellow Scouts, Trombley prepared the soil, designed the landscape, planted and mulched, and enclosed the area.

The work took place over the past summer.

He received donations from a number of businesses and individuals.

Trombley has been involved in Scouting for 10 years.

Ryan Trombley

He joined Cub Scout Pack 1562 at age 6 and became a Boy Scout in 2003.

A Belle Vernon Area High School sophomore, Trombley is a highest honors student and a member of the Interact Club. He is the son of Craig and Melissa Trombley, of Washington Township.

He is the grandson of Kenny and Mabel Eckert, of Rostraver Township, and Sonny and Anna Marie Trombley, of Belle Vernon.

IN THE SERVICE

Training completed

U.S. Army Pvt. Justin W. Henshawe has completed infantryman one station unit training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. He is a 2007 Elizabeth Forward High School graduate.

Johnson graduates

Army Pvt. Ashley B. Johnson has completed basic combat training at Fort Jackson, Columbia, S.C. A 2007 Monessen High School graduate, she is the granddaughter of Patricia Johnson, of Monessen.

CALIFORNIA AREA HIGH SCHOOL HONOR ROLL

The following were named to the second-quarter honor roll at California Area High School:

Grade nine

High Honors – Ian Colbert, Dakota Conway, Molly Diethorn, Jon Difilippo, Elizabeth Doman, Michael Doman, Michael Gaisbacher, Jenna Glab, Shannon Johnson, Courtney Koschalk, Sam Luketich, Ashley Malone, Benjamin Martik, Robert Moore, Corrine Nedzesky, Hunter Pallini, Matthew Peteritis, Joshua Pollock, Nathaniel Scaccia, Paul Sheppick, Aaron Sutch, Amanda Treser, Sara Ventura and Danielle Zajicek.

Honors – Ren Antonucci, Michael Britton, Austin Chegini, Nicholas Hawk, Jalen Holder, Brandon Horan, Joshua Jenkins, Tyler Palfrey, Matthew Palyas, Alex Roach, Nicholas Roberts, Ross Singosky, Katie Stankus, Jessa Thompson and Trevor Tranchita.

Grade 10

High Honors – Nancy Chen, John Columbia Lauren Fisher, Chelsea Hajdu, Melissa Johnson, Jacob Lee, Doris Marshall, Sarah Martik, Mary Sears, Cassie Stimmell, Bethany Stinnett, Shawn Turner, Alyssa Walters and Robert Zajack.

Honors – Allison Greenlief, Morgan Moluski, Madison Popelas, Haiden Rapsack, Rayna Santo, Preston Shaw, Angela Staley, Amanda Toia and Lauren Turosik.

Grade 11

High Honors – Katelyn Bakewell, Dylan Boehm, Andrew Booth, Benjamin Carson, Mingya Chan, Aaron Chegini, Julia Constantine, Alyssa Johnston, Tiffany Lee, Ronald Lincoski, Emily Martik, Sey Young Min, Jacob Monroe, Evan Nowak, Christina Pankratz, Machall Pocky, Emily Puhnaty, Adam Sutch, Ashley Toia, Madeline Vargo and Adam Wilkinson.

Honors – James Cullen, Brittany Hickman, Amber Leyda, Carly Malone, Keeylynn McGriff, Spencer Popelas, Caleb Rossi, Sybil Thomas and Brittany Watkins.

Grade 12

High Honors – Emily Calhoun, Elizabeth Dolak, Emily Dowler, Matthew Gaisbacher, Natalie Granato, Autumn Harris, Chelsea Javorsky, Lindsay King, Kala Kuvinka, Kirsten Matsko, Jayle Messinger, Brandon Miller, Alyssa Morris, Ashley Okom, Carolyn Pagac, Melissa Rager, Cassidy Riva, Martika Roberts, Brandon Rossi, Elizabeth Shaw, Megan Silbaugh, Stephen Ventura, Alicia Watson, Laura Wohar and Nathan Wright.

Honors – Gavin Bennett, Ashley Celaschi, Meghan Cope, Kourtney Doman, Brandon Greco, Sydney Harris, Miranda Holma, Joshua King, Cortez Lowery, Megan Pagac, Kristina Rizak, Zack Smith and Travis VanOlst.

Memorial Tributes For...

Easter

IF YOU WISH TO PAY TRIBUTE....

For your convenience in selecting a suitable memorial, a number of verses have been printed below. One of these may perfectly portray your feelings. However, you may express any sentiment in your own words, or stop in at our Eastgate office and select a verse from our Memorial Book. If you prefer to publish a picture with the verse, please contact the classified department by phone at 724-684-5200 for further information.

Special Easter Memorial Page To Be Published
Saturday, March 22, 2008

1.
You are not forgotten, loved one,
Nor will you ever be.
As long as life and memory last,
We shall remember thee.
We miss you now, our hearts are sore,
As time goes on we miss you more.
Your loving smile, your gentle face,
No one can fill your vacant place.

2.
They say time heals all sorrows,
And helps us to forget,
But time so far has only proved
How much we miss you yet.
God gave us strength to fight it
And courage to bear the blow,
But what it meant to lose you,
No one will ever know.

3.
You have taken your long last journey
In the beautiful ship, called Rest,
Away from this world of sorrow
To the home of Eternal Rest.

4.
Today recalls sad memories
Of our dear one gone to rest
And the ones who think of you today,
Are the ones who love you best.

5.
Within our hearts we'll always keep
A special place for you
And try to do our best to live
As you would want us to.
We loved you so, we miss you,
In our memory you are near
Loved, remembered and longed for,
Always treasured with love sincere.

6.
Your life is a beautiful memory,
Your death is a silent grief,
You sleep in God's beautiful garden,
In the sunshine of perfect peace.

7.
Wonderful memories woven in gold,
This is the picture we tenderly hold.
Deep in our hearts - memory is kept,
To love, cherish and never forget.

8.
Our hearts are heavy,
Our thoughts are all of thee,
How we really miss you, dear,
No one but God can see.
Some say time heals an aching heart,
But, no, it isn't true,
For many long years have passed
And our hearts still ache for you.

9.
Memories are treasures no one can steal,
Death leaves a heartache no one can heal.
Loved dearly in life and living yet,
In the hearts of the ones who will never forget.

10.
No one knows how much we miss you,
No one knows the bitter pain
We have suffered since we lost you,
Life has never been the same.
In our hearts your memory lingers,
Sweetly tender, fond and true,
There is not a day, dear loved one
That we do not think of you.

11.
Tonight the stars are gleaming
Upon a lonely grave,
Where sleeps one without dreaming
The one we loved but could not save.
The rolling streams of life pass on,
But still the vacant chair,
Recalls the smile, the love, the voice,
Of the one who once sat there.

12.
Nothing can ever take away
The love a heart holds dear;
Fond memories linger every day
Remembrance keeps them near.

13.
As we loved you, so we miss you.
In our hearts you are ever near,
Loved, remembered, longed for always
Bringing many a silent tear.

14.
Time takes away the edge of grief,
But memory turns back every leaf,
Sunshine fades and shadows fall,
But sweet remembrance outlasts all.

15.
Gone, dear loved one, gone forever,
How we miss your smiling face,
But you left us to remember,
None on earth can take your place.
A happy home we once enjoyed,
How sweet the memory still,
But death has left a loneliness,
The world can never fill.

16.
The depth of sorrow we cannot tell,
Of the loss of one we loved so well,
And while you sleep, a peaceful sleep,
Your memory we shall always keep.

17.
I formed a mental picture
Of the one I loved so dear,
He (she) went to meet his (her) Maker
Without a trace of fear.
Sometime I hope to join him (her),
What a meeting that will be,
When we are again united
Beyond life's sea of dreams.

18.
Our hearts still ache with sadness,
Our eyes shed many tears,
God only knows how much we miss you
At the end of these long years.
And when evening shadows are falling,
And we are sitting all alone,
There comes to us a longing,
If only you could come home.

19.
Peacefully sleeping, resting at last,
His (her) weary troubles and trails past.
In silence he (she) suffered,
In patience he (she) bore
"Til God called him (her) home
To suffer no more."

20.
When links of life are broken
And loved ones have to part,
It leaves a wound that never heals
An ever aching heart.
So it does not take a special day,
To bring him (her) to our minds,
For days that we do not think of him (her)
Are very hard to find.

21.
Within our store memories,
He (she) holds a place apart,
For no one else can ever be
More cherished in our hearts.

An Easter Tribute
In Loving Memory Of
Helen M. Doe

Our beloved mother & grandmother, who passed away June 14, 1995.
No one knows how much we miss you.
No one knows the bitter pain we have suffered since we lost you.
Life has never been the same. In our hearts your memory lingers, sweetly tender, fond and true, there is not a day, dear loved one, that we do not think of you.
Sadly missed by your family

THIS SIZE 2X3
WITH OR WITHOUT PHOTO
$45.00

THIS SIZE 1X2
$25.00

An Easter Tribute
In Loving Memory Of
Helen M. Doe
Our beloved mother & grandmother, who passed away June 14, 1995.
No one knows how much we miss you. No one knows the bitter pain we have suffered since we lost you. Life has never been the same. In our hearts your memory lingers, sweetly tender, fond and true. There is not a day, dear loved one, that we do not think of you.
Sadly missed by your Family

OTHER SIZES AVAILABLE
1x2½.....$27.00
1x3.....$30.00

USE THIS ORDER FORM - MAIL TODAY

In loving memory of (my or our)

Name _____

Passed Away (date) _____

Verse Number _____

Sadly missed by _____

Enclosed is $ _____ for one or $ _____ for two or more (minus $1.00 from each memorial if two or more)

CASH _____ CHECK _____ MONEY ORDER _____

If you prefer, you may be billed for your memoriam.

Billing: (Name) _____

Address: _____

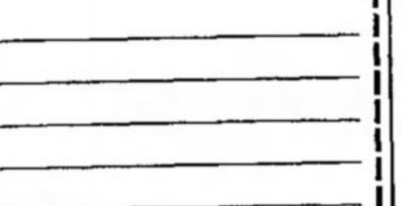
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

If you want to write your own verse, send it with this order form. We will calculate the cost and advise you by telephone.

MAIL TO... THE VALLEY INDEPENDENT
EASTGATE 19
MONESSEN, PA 15062
OR CALL 724-684-5200

YOU MAY REQUEST ARTWORK AT NO ADDITIONAL CHARGE SUCH AS..



PLEASE ADD ART _____

DEADLINE
MONDAY, MARCH 17, 5PM

The Valley Independent

The Valley INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED

724.684.5200 FAX: 724.684.2602 VALLEYINDEPENDENT.COM

MERCHANDISE
4 DAYS $14.30 4 LINES
Private Party Only • Pre-Paid

"Run Til' Sells" prepaid $19.45 (4 Lines)
(Private Party Merchandise Only, No Businesses, Autos, Boats, RV's, Real Estate, Mobile Homes or Apartments.)
Asking Price of Item is Reduced Every 2 Weeks by 5%

AUTOMOTIVE
26 DAYS $34.78 4 LINES
Private Party Only • Pre-Paid

SERVICE DIRECTORY
30 DAYS $59.77
Pre-Paid

GENERAL INFORMATION: The Tribune-Review Publishing Company reserves the right to edit or reject any advertising copy and determine the correct classification of any advertisement. MISPRINTS: Notice of error should be reported to the Classified Department immediately. The Tribune-Review Publishing Company will not be responsible for more than the cost of that part of an ad rendered valueless by the error. CONFIDENTIALITY: Confidential box numbers – we do not disclose the name of any advertiser using our classified pages. Persons answering File Number ads who WISH to protect their identity can do so as follows: Place your reply in an envelope addressed to the File Box at the Valley Independent Classified Department, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062. Include the file number and a list of firms or persons you DO NOT want your reply to reach. If the advertiser is anyone you've listed, we'll destroy your reply. NOTICE: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, familial status or handicaps, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. The paper accepts only recruitment advertising meeting EOE standards. The newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising which is in violation of the law.

DAILY DEADLINES: HAPPY ADS: 12 Noon • LEGAL ADS: 12 Noon
DAILY IN-COLUMN: 1:30 PM Monday-Friday previous day
MONDAY DEADLINE: 4:30 PM on Friday
SUNDAY: All Ads – 11 AM Wednesday

THIS WEEK'S Spotlight Vehicle | THIS WEEK'S Spotlight Job | THIS WEEK'S Spotlight Service | THIS WEEK'S Spotlight House

CALL TODAY TO FIND OUT HOW! 724-684-5200
THE Valley INDEPENDENT
TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

1000/GENERAL

CALIFORNIA MOTOR ROUTE DRIVER
- 68 Papers Mon.-Sat.
- California/Malden Area
- Approx. $850/month
- 2½ hrs. daily

CALL 724-684-2648

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Opportunities to Join a Winning Team!

The Tribune-Review Publishing Company has open positions for Part-time Circulation Assistants.
Currently an exciting opportunity exists for the right individual. A chance to earn, learn and advance.

- Steady Part-time, approx. 30 hrs./wk
- Early morning hours
- Delivery & customer service skills necessary
- Work Independently
- Competitive wage & auto allowance

If interested, call Ken Planinsek at 724-850-2826
TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

LOOKING FOR LOVE? CHECK OUT MEETING PLACE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

BARTENDER for private club. Day and evening hours. To apply call 724-929-2225, after 6pm.

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COOK- experienced dinner- 5-6hrs/day. Call or stop by for application, Teddy's Tavern, 1305 Axton St., Belle Vernon. 724-929-5971

COOK part-time, flexible hrs. for American Croatian Citizens Club, Donora. Call after 4pm 724-379-4871

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BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT! ONLY IN THE CLASSIFIEDS TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

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Charlerol Pizzeria looking for hardworking responsible individuals for delivery and management positions. Call 724-483-0500.

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1-800-747-3807

Full-Time
- COOK
- WAITRESS
- HOUSEKEEPING

Part-Time
- HOSTESS

--Apply in Person--
Belle Vernon Holiday Inn

HORSE STABLE HELP weekends. Must have exp. with horses. Clean, feed & turnout. Finleyville area 724-986-0629.

HOUSEKEEPER PT, experienced & reliable only. Non-smoking. Call after 3pm 724-929-7010.

LOOKING FOR compassionate & reliable HHA or CNA with at least 1 yr. exp. Must be flexible. Criminal background check & valid PA driver's license req. 724-258-4451.

MAINTENANCE PERSON needed for apt. rental building in Charleroi, full/part-time. Must have own transportation & tools. Call 412-716-5177.

MANAGER
Needed for hair salon. Full-time. Send letter of interest and/or resume in confidence to Box 892, c/o Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062

MECHANIC
Experience in Heavy Equipment repair welding a plus. Full time for a fast growing transloading company located in Westmoreland County. Excellent wage & benefits. Please send resume with wage requirements to PO Box 63, Belle Vernon, PA 15012 or email admin@trmrt.com

Looking for a new best friend? KITTY Find one in PETS! CLASSIFIEDS TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

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NOTARY- part-time, days & evenings. Computer exp. Detail oriented, outgoing. Finleyville. 724-348-7810

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NURSES AIDE
Full-time. Midnight Shift in Monessen
Call 724-684-8170

REPRESENTATIVE for nutritional cleansing system endorsed by Dr. John Gray & Jack Canfield "Chicken Soup for the Soul". Interested inquiries call 724-331-9930.

SALES Associates PT & FT. Competitive wage, sales incentives avail. Customer service/retail exp preferred. Apply in person. Cal Cuthbert Pools 733 Broad Ave., Belle Vernon, PA.

WAITER/WAITRESS experience preferred. Carriage Inn, Elizabeth. Please call 412-754-1647.

WASHINGTON TWP.
School Guard 3 hrs a day. Part-time Road Crew member. Part-time Zoning Officer. Send resumes to Washington Township@comcast.net or 1390 Fayette Ave., Belle Vernon, PA 15012. Deadline March 10, 2008

1010/ACCOUNTING/FINANCE

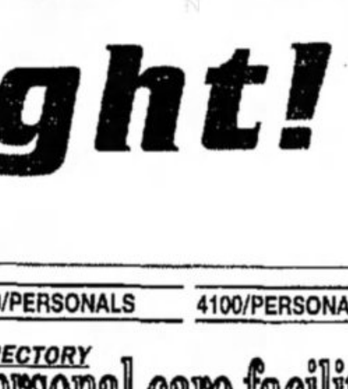
MEMBER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE
Position with local financial institution. Part-time Experience preferred. Flexible hours. Reply to Box 856 c/o The Valley Independent Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062

LOOKING for a GREAT ESCAPE? Find it in OUTDOOR ADVENTURES CLASSIFIEDS TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

4100/PERSONALS

DIRECTORY **personal care facilities**

FAYETTE CITY
COUNTRY CARE MANOR personal care at it's best! One level, separate Dementia Wing, all brick const., country setting, 5+ acres. Affordable. 724-326-4909.



To Place An Ad
For Your Personal Care Facility, Call The Classified Dept. at (724) 684-5200 or Fax (724) 684-2602.

1015/AUTOMOTIVE

2 AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIANS
Chrysler & Subaru exp. helpful. State inspection & emissions license needed. Call John or Tony at Gerry Raymond's Automotive 724-379-7300

1025/DRIVERS

ARMANDO'S PIZZA- BIG BUCKS!! Part-time delivery driver wanted. Day shift. Apply in person, 538 Fallowfield Ave., Charleroi.

CDL DRIVER- part-time/full-time. Clairton. Call 412-952-9850.

1040/MEDICAL

Albert Gallatin Home Care & Hospice Medical Social Worker
Albert Gallatin Home Care & Hospice is seeking a full-time Medical Social Worker in the Monongahela service area. MSW must possess bachelor or master degree in social work from an accredited School of Social Work. Master Degree preferred. Min 1 yr. exp. in a health care setting required. Competitive salary & benefits package including Mecial/ Dental/Vision/401(k) Savings Plan w/Employer Match, Disability Plans/Flexible Spending Accounts/Tuition Assistance/CEU Offerings and much more! To apply, contact Donna Grote, (P) 724-438-6660, (F) 724-438-3858, email dgrote@tlchhc.com
AGHC
20 Highland Park Drive
Uniontown, PA 15401
EOE

Director of Nutritional Services
Long Term Care Facility seeking full-time Registered Dietician to direct the Nutrition Services Department, conduct nutrition assessments, care plans, MDS & other related duties. Qualified individuals may fax or send resume to:
724-310-1195 (fax)
MON VALLEY CARE CENTER
200 Stoops Drive
Monongahela, PA 15063
EOE

ORTHODONTIC OFFICE FRONT DESK SECRETARY
FT or PT position for multi-office practice in the Mon Valley & South Hills areas. Email resume to monvalleyortho@hotmail.com

LOOKING FOR A DREAM JOB? FIND IT HERE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK!

1040/MEDICAL

HHA/CNA
New Salem, Isabella, Republic, Mt. Pleasant and Belle Vernon. Shifts will vary according to client. To apply call 724-430-1460 or: www.interimhealthcare.com

PHYSICAL THERAPIST
Full-time/Part-time needed for home visits in the Mon Valley area. Must have 1 yr. recent exp. Call Jeanne Henry 1-800-447-2030 or fax resume 412-436-2215
EOE M/F/V/H
Interim HEALTHCARE

RN's/LPN's
Looking for a rewarding job right in your back yard...
- Belle Vernon-Motivated vent dependent adult male in need of PT days with flexible hrs. and FT salaried evenings. RN $48,000 yr./LPN $41,000 yr. Male nurses encouraged to apply.
- Belle Vernon-Sweet & delightful 6 yr. old w/g-tube in need of Wednesdays for school 7am-6pm.

Call Krisha Now!
1-800-447-2030
EOE M/F/V/H
Interim HEALTHCARE

1050/SALES

OUTSIDE SALES REPS
Full or Part Time
Flexible Hours
Excellent Income Potential

We are looking for aggressive, results-oriented salespeople to join our team to market Home Delivery of
Tribune-Review Publishing Company
Crew leader, storefront and door-to-door positions are available
Please call 412-610-6378
8am-5:30pm Monday
8am-3pm Tues. & Wed.
8am-12 Thursday
Closed Friday

1110/BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

DONORA ROUTE AVAILABLE
22 Papers
Highland Ave.
6th St.
Saint Nick
No Collecting
Call Melissa At 724-684-2647

DRIVER WANTED
Rostraver Twp./ Smithton
- 102 Customers
- Mon.-Sat.
- 2 hrs. daily
- No Collections

Call 724-684-2648

FINLEYVILLE MOTOR ROUTE
2 Hours A Day
Approx. $300 A Month
Call Melissa At 724-684-2647

LOOKING FOR LOVE? CHECK OUT MEETING PLACE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

MONESSEN ROUTE AVAILABLE
Coolidge Ave.
Mellon Ave.
No Collecting
Only 13 Papers
Call 724-684-2647

NORTH CHARLEROI ROUTE OPEN
Only 18 Papers
Highland Avenue
No Collecting
Call Melissa
724-684-2647

ROUTES AVAILABLE
Tribune Review
- ✓ California
- ✓ Bentleyville
- ✓ Ellsworth Area

Call Jason at 724-272-4437 or Bill at 412-523-2306

SHOP IN YOUR PJS. 24 HOURS A DAY. TRIBCLASSIFIEDS.COM TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

MYSTERY SHOPPERS earn up to $150 per day. Undercover shoppers needed to judge retail & dining establishments. Call 1-800-491-5378.

2010/ESTATE NOTICES

Guiser, Robert M.
ESTATE NOTICE

Letters Testamentary on the Estate of ROBERT M. GUISER, late of Newell Borough, Fayette County, Pennsylvania, deceased, having been granted by the Register of Wills of Fayette County, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims against the same present them without delay to:

Eric James Guiser, Executor
933 Newell Road
Newell, PA 15466

Alan Benyak, Esquire
401 Sixth Street at Washington Avenue
Post Office Box [illegible]
Charleroi, PA 15022
2/15,22,29

4100/PERSONALS

ASTRO ✦ GRAPH

Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday
SATURDAY, FEB. 23, 2008

PISCES
February 19 through March 20

Because you'll be able to balance your feelings with your intellect in the year ahead, you'll be much more at peace with yourself and your lot in life. This, in turn, allows the best inside you to come out and serve you better than ever.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) -- The best approach to getting others to assist you is to be subtle and a bit reserved about things. If you can do so in a way that lets people think it was their idea, their compassionate nature will do the rest.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) -- No one is expected to know everything about all things, and that includes you. Don't hesitate to ask questions or have something explained a couple of times if this is what you need.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) -- If you find that your success is turning out to be measured in inches instead of yards, continue to remain patient. You know better than most that as long as you're moving forward, you'll reach your goal.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) -- You're smart enough to know that the more you learn about the argument others are making, the better you'll understand their opinions and how to adjust your thinking to harmonize with theirs.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) -- This is a good time to get your household budget back on track because conditions are running in your favor. With a little bit of prudent reorganization, you'll find ways to get better mileage from your dollars.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) -- You shouldn't have to sidestep making any important decisions. Your judgment is especially keen right now, enabling you to more accurately evaluate all the alternatives to most of your problems.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) -- Look for gains to come from more than one source, but don't be disappointed if they are not all gigantic. Remember, small gains have a way of turning into something far more than anybody thinks.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) -- You will have the ability to manipulate others, but any maneuverings won't be done for selfish purposes. What you convince another to do will be for the good of everyone.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) -- Persons who put their trust in you won't be making a mistake. What they discuss with you in confidence will remain there -- without any fear of it being repeated or circulated to others.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) -- Seek the company of stimulating friends who are fun and uplifting to be around. You'll not only have a good time with them but an exchange of thoughts could produce several super ideas.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) -- Progress can be made at this time concerning an important issue that holds much interest to you. Although this progress might not be gigantic, its movement will be inching onward and upward.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) -- Endeavors of a mental nature will be your cup of tea. You'll learn what you're exposed to and retain it well, but more importantly, you'll be effective in wisely applying it.

AUTO DIRECTORY

A&L Motors
BMW
3780 William Penn Hwy. Rt 22
Monroeville, PA
877-252-6952

B Bogdewic
Chevrolet
The Little Guys in Bentlyville
724-239-2121

Century III
Dodge
911Clairton Blvd. Route 51
412-469-2800

C. Harper
Autoplex
Rts. 51 & 71
Belle Vernon, PA
724-929-8000

C. Harper
Ford
Rt. 51 Belle Vernon
727-929-2900

Davies
Ford of Charleroi
Route 88 McKean Ave.
Charleroi, PA
724-483-5541

Davies
Ford of Connellsville
Route 119 N.
Connellsville, PA
724-628-2720

Elite Motors
Country Club Road
Monongahela, PA
724-258-5124

Franks Service Garage
Chrysler
57 E. Donner Ave.
Monessen, PA
724-684-9100

Gerry Raymond
Chrysler • Jeep • Dodge • Subaru
4803 Rt. 51
Belle Vernon
724-379-7300

Monongahela
Ford
210 Fourth St
Monongahela, PA
724-258-8800

Rainbow
Honda
Route 40 Richeyville, PA
724-632-6853

Rotolo
Dodge • Chrysler • Jeep
Rt. 88 Charleroi, PA 15022
724-489-9571
www.rotolomotors.com

Sedney
Buick-Pontiac-GMC Trucks
Route 88, N. Charleroi, PA
724-489-9547

Solomon
Ford
Routes 40 & 43
Brownsville, PA
724-785-5500
www.solomonauto.com

Solomon
Chrysler-Jeep-Dodge
Routes 40 & 43
Brownsville, PA
724-785-8000
www.solomonauto.com

Solomon
Chrysler-Jeep-Dodge
Sea-Doo • Ski-Doo • Can-Am
Routes 21 & 88
Carmichaels, PA
724-966-2600
www.solomonauto.com

Tregembo
Ford
170 Exit 32B
Bentlyville, PA
724-239-2200

Uniontown Toyota
650 West Main St. •
Uniontown, PA 15401
724-437-8422

Washington
Ford
507 Washington Road Route 19
Washington, PA
724-223-5100

Woltz & Wind
Ford
2100 Washington Pike
Carnegie, PA 15106
412-278-4551

3 Rivers Volkswagen
3694 Washington Road
McMurray, PA
724-941-6100

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- 68 Papers Mon.-Sat.
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- Belle Vernon-Sweet & delightful 6 yr. old w/g-tube in need of Wednesdays for school 7am-6pm.

Call Krisha Now!
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ADVERTISING SUPPLEMENT

DUI Arrest A Lot More Than a Slap on the Wrist

A DUI arrest and resulting accident can leave you on the hook for far more than vehicle repair costs.

(MS) — Anyone who has ever been behind the wheel of a motor vehicle knows of the potential dangers that come with operating an automobile. Such dangers are only heightened when motorists make the decision to drive while under the influence of alcohol.

Though some might feel a DUI is no different than your run-of-the-mill traffic citation, nothing could be further from the truth. In fact, many unforeseen problems can arise as a result of driving drunk.

· **Insurance concerns** — Insurance companies routinely check driving records when new applicants are applying for insurance. However, companies also might check driving records of current policy holders. Sometimes, a DUI arrest can slip through the cracks. However, more often than not, drivers can expect one of two things to result from a DUI arrest when it comes to insurance: higher premiums or being dropped entirely.

Some states prohibit companies from dropping drivers because of a DUI arrest, though most states don't. Even if your insurance company does decide to keep you on, expect your premiums to go through the roof. The state of California, for instance, in the past has reported that alcohol-related crashes accounted for 20 percent of the state's auto insurance payments. Such figures make it easy to understand why insurance companies typically come down so hard on DUI offenders.

· **Civil suits** — Should you get into an automobile accident with a blood alcohol content (BAC) lower than the relatively standard .08 most states use as a line of demarcation for sobriety, that may only clear you from criminal charges. If you're involved in an accident where others are hurt or property is damaged and your BAC was .05 or .06, it's not outlandish to expect a civil jury to find you liable. The term "legally intoxicated" only refers to criminal liability, not civil liability.

· **Employment concerns** — Should your DUI arrest result in a criminal conviction, by no means is a judge mandated to reinstate your license for work or school privileges. This could very well cost you your job. Though most first-time offenders will receive work or school privileges, it's not set in stone. In addition, even if you are granted privileges, the increase in your insurance premiums might be far more than you can afford, which can create a sticky situation if you have no access to public transportation that can get you to and from work.

· **Financial considerations** — In addition to increased insurance rates, expect an immediate and very negative impact on your finances within days of being arrested for DUI. The aforementioned California, for instance, has proven somewhat of a trailblazer with respect to penalizing DUI offenders. The repercussions are often harsh, making it necessary for anyone hoping to avoid the full brunt of those penalties to obtain a competent DUI attorney. Attorney's fees in those instance are often several thousand dollars. In addition to attorney's fees, court costs, car impound fees and towing costs can pile up. There's also a strong chance you'll need to take time off from work, be it for a court appearance or to meet with a lawyer.

While none of these things are on the minds of people out having a good time with a few drinks, that isn't to say they shouldn't be. As devastating as these consequences can be, all of them can be avoided by simply calling a cab or using a designated driver.

Drunk and Drugged Driving By the Numbers

1.5 million: The number of people arrested for drunk driving last year. The same amount are thought to have driven under the influence of drugs. (USA Today)

17,000: The average number of Americans who die from drunk or drugged drivers each year.

41: Percentage of vehicle crashes that are alcohol-related. (NATIONAL COMMISSION AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING STATISTICS)

30: Someone dies in an alcohol-related crash every 30 minutes. (NATIONAL COMMISSION AGAINST DRUNK DRIVING STATISTICS)

51: Amount in billions that it costs the United States in alcohol-related accidents. (CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION)

18: Percentage of motor vehicle accidents where drugs other than alcohol were implicated. (NHTSA)

453: Number of U.S. accidents recorded in 2004 during the New Year's Holiday. (MADD)

1779: Number of alcohol-related deaths that occured in 2006 in California, which was the state with the highest number of alcohol-related deaths. (NHTSA)

1982: Year in which "December is National Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month" was established by Pres. Ronald Reagan.

'Tis the Season to Be Careful

(NewsUSA) — Did you know that approximately every two hours a person or vehicle is struck by a train in the United States?

Operation Lifesaver, a rail safety education organization, is offering motorists and pedestrians a few safety tips to prevent disaster and ensure a safe holiday.

"We're providing 'Rail Safety Tips for Winter Travel' to raise public awareness about the need for caution around tracks and trains," said Helen Sramek, president of Operation Lifesaver, Inc. "Taking extra care while approaching a railroad crossing on foot or in a vehicle could mean the difference between a joyous or a tragic holiday."

With increased traffic everywhere and the distractions of the season, many people will pay less attention to what is happening on train tracks, Sramek noted. "Our number-one safety tip is 'Always expect a train.'"

While the number of fatalities has been reduced significantly in the 35 years Operation Lifesaver has been making safety presentations across America, there is still work to be done. Preliminary Federal Railroad Administration statistics for 2006 show that 1,403 Americans were killed or injured in vehicle-train collisions, and 989 pedestrian-rail trespass deaths or injuries occurred nationwide.

Operation Lifesaver is a national, non-profit safety education group whose goal is to eliminate deaths and injuries at railroad crossings and along railroad rights of way. The group's 3,000 certified presenters throughout the United States are trained to give free safety talks.

Rail Safety Tips for Winter Travel

1. Slow down. Winter weather hampers vision for pedestrians and drivers. Snow-covered roads and parking lots can spell disaster.

2. Stay focused. Keep your eyes on the road. Hang up your cell phone, remove earphones, turn down your personal music and quit text messaging while driving or walking near tracks.

3. Stop 15 feet from crossing. Whether you are on foot or in a vehicle, stay at least one car-length's distance from the crossing at all times.

4. Observe all lights and signals. If a signal appears to malfunction, call the 1-800 number at the crossing. Check for a second train and an upright gate before crossing.

5. If stuck, get out of your vehicle. If your vehicle stalls on the tracks, move quickly away. Call 911, and alert law enforcement of the vehicle's exact location.

The full list of "Rail Safety Tips for Winter Travel" can be found at www.oli.org Call 1-800-537-6224 to schedule a free safety presentation.

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REAL ESTATE

5310/GARAGE/YARD SALES

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5310/GARAGE/YARD SALES

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3540/APTS-RENT/FAYETTE

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3555/APTS-RENT/WASHINGTON

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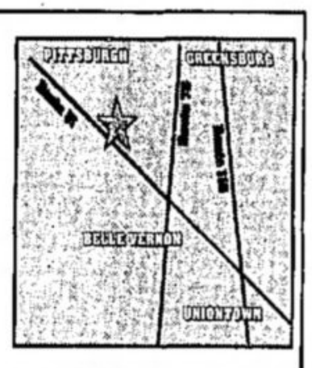

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2010/ESTATE NOTICES

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NO. 02-08-00575
late of Elizabeth, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania
Letters of Administration upon the above estate have been granted by the Register of Wills. Notice is hereby given to all persons indebted thereto to make payment without delay and to those having claims or demands to present them for settlement to the Administratrix or to her attorney.
Administratrix: SANDRA D. DuCARME 34 Decker Street Monongahela, PA 15063
Attorney: JANETTE BAISLEY, ESQ. Amatangelo & Baisley 100 Fourth Street Donora, PA 15033 2/15,22,29

Macik, Lillian D.
ESTATE NOTICE
Letters of administration on the estate of LILLIAN D. MACIK late of The Township of Rostraver, Westmoreland County, deceased, having been granted by the Register of Wills of Westmoreland County, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims against the same to present them without delay to
Edward Macik, Administrator 617 South Elder St. Anaheim, CA 92805
Mark S. Galper, Esquire BERGSTEIN & GALPER, P.C. 409 Schoonmaker Ave. P.O. Box A Monessen, PA 15062 2/15,22,29

Moffit, JoAnn
ESTATE NOTICE
ESTATE OF JO ANN MOFFIT, DECEASED. Late of the Borough of Charleroi, Washington County, Pennsylvania
Letters Testamentary on the above Estate having been granted to the undersigned, notice is hereby given to those indebted thereto to make immediate payment and to those having claims or demands to present them for settlement
Juliann Hawk 917 Crest Avenue Charleroi, PA 15022 And Christine Braunegg 548 Sweetbriar Drive Harrisburg, PA 17111 Co-Executrices
John I. Nubani, Esquire BASSI, MCCUNE & VREELAND, P.C. P.O. Box 144 111 FALLOWFIELD AVENUE CHARLEROI, PA 15022 2/8,15,22

Murt, Jonathan M.
ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE
Letters of Administration on the Estate of JONATHAN M. MURT, late of Belle Vernon, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, deceased, have been granted to the undersigned by the Register of Wills of Westmoreland County, on February 7, 2008. Notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims against the same to present these to the undersigned, duly authenticated for settlement
Thomas and Mary Lou Murt 108 Lee Drive Belle Vernon, PA 15012 Co-Administrator's
Michael A. Johnson Attorney at Law 749 N. Church Street Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666 2/15,22,29

2010/ESTATE NOTICES

ESTATE NOTICE
Letters of administration on the Estate of LOIS O. LOFTUS late of Donora, Washington County, deceased, having been granted by the Register of Wills of Washington County, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims against the same to present them without delay to:
Mary Eileen Loftus, Administratrix 727 Thompson Avenue Donora, PA 15033 2/8,15,22

2020/BID NOTICES

BID NOTICE
The Belle Vernon Area School District Board of Education is accepting sealed bids for the following categories of supplies and equipment, for the 2008-2009 school year. (1) art; (2) office; (3) general teaching; (4) computer supplies; (5) janitorial; (6) medical; (7) audio visual; (8) home economics; (9) industrial arts; (10) music; (11) physical education; (12) science; (13) athletics; (14) #2 low sulfur diesel fuel and motor; (15) milk for the cafeteria program; (16) bus supplies and parts; (17) new 66-passenger school buses; (18) 24-passenger mini-bus; (19) paint and paint supplies; and, (20) tires and recaps.
Specifications and bid documents are available in the District Administration Office located at 270 Crest Avenue, Belle Vernon, PA 15012-4200; phone: 724-929-0900 Extension 235.
Sealed bids must be in the possession of the Board Secretary or his authorized representative by 10:00 a.m., prevailing time, on Tuesday, March 11, 2008. Any bid(s) received after the date and time specified will be returned to the bidder unopened.
The Belle Vernon Area School District Board of Education reserves the right to: (1) accept or reject any or all bids; (2) select a single item or group of items from any bid; and, (3) waive any technicalities or informalities in any bid.
BY ORDER OF THE BOARD James M. McKevitt Board Secretary 2/22,25;3/3

LEGAL NOTICE
CALIFORNIA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Sealed proposals are requested for an ACT 77 Guaranteed Energy Savings Project. A copy of the Request for Proposal may be obtained by contacting:
Dr. Timothy Marks California Area School District 750 Orchard Street California, PA 15419 724-938-2511
Sealed proposals are to be submitted to California Area School District. The proposal is to be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Energy Savings Project" and will not be accepted after 10:00 a.m. EST, March 03, 2008. Proposals will be opened at 10:15 a.m. EST, March 03, 2008 in the Administration Office. Proposals are to remain valid for 120 days and will be awarded at the convenience of the Board of School Directors.
The Board of School Directors reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals.
By Order of the Board Mary Bastin, School Board Secretary 2/22,25,29

2030/MEETING NOTICES

MEETING NOTICE
North Charleroi Borough Council has announced that a town meeting will be held on Monday, March 3, 2008. This meeting will begin at 7:00 P.M. and will be held at the Lock #4 Fire Department social hall and has been called for the sole purpose of discussing a plan to reduce the size of council from 7 to 5 members. All North Charleroi residents are invited to attend.
Karen Jurczak, Secretary 2/22,25

2050/CORPORATE NOTICES

Shivshil Hospitality, Inc
INCORPORATION NOTICE
NOTICE is hereby given that Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Department of State, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, on February 7, 2008, for the purpose of obtaining a Certificate of Incorporation of a proposed corporation which was organized under the Business Corporation Law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania approved December 21, 1988, Act 177.
The name of the corporation is Shivshil Hospitality, Inc. with its principal place of business being located at 119 Wilson Road, Bentleyville, Pennsylvania 15314
Keith A. Bassi, Esquire BASSI, McCUNE & VREELAND, P.C. Attorneys at Law P.O. Box 144 111 Fallowfield Avenue Charleroi, PA 15022 2/22

4000/ADOPTION

ADOPT
Abundance of LOVE, secure future, musical family wishing to adopt your precious baby. Legal/Confidential Expenses Paid
Call Dale Eileen at 1-888-822-0146

4010/CEMETERY LOTS

4 LEVEL LOTS Mon Valley Park in Well of Samaria section near main rd across from old school. $2,000 all 4. After 4pm 724-872-9221.

4070/LOST & FOUND

FIND SOMETHING? LOSE SOMETHING? Place your lost & found ad FREE. Runs 4 days at no charge. Call 724-684-5200.
LOST KEYS Belle Vernon Area. H3 key on ring. Call 724-984-0555.

4100/PERSONALS

$195 DIVORCE COMPLETE
No-Fault Uncontested
Reisman & Davis, Pgh
-No Court Appearance or Travel To Office
-Free Information
1-800-486-4070 24Hrs

ALONE & PREGNANT?
A Confidential Caring Friend
Free Pregnancy Test
LIFELINE OF S.W. PA
Call Hotline 24 Hrs.
724-489-9020

IF WE DON'T HAVE IT, YOU DON'T NEED IT. CLASSIFIEDS
LOOKING FOR LOVE? CHECK OUT MEETING PLACE. CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA
BUY IT! SELL IT! FIND IT! CLASSIFIEDS WORK! TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

5000/APPAREL & JEWELRY

GIRL'S HEELEYS size 6, brand new. $20.00. Call 724-684-6534.
HARLEY DAVIDSON leather & wool jacket XL, excellent condition, $124.00 724-872-0151.
MEN'S PANTS 36Wx30L, excellent condition, 5 pairs. $10 pr. 724-929-8574.
MEN'S SHOES 5 pairs. $10.00 each. Call 724-929-8574.
RIDING BOOTS black leather, size 8W, never worn, paid $110, sell $50. 724-326-4627

5020/ARTICLES

14 PIECES O gauge straight track, $30.00. Call 724-258-3168.
16 PIECES O gauge curves $35.00. Call 724-258-3168.
16 PIECES O gauge 054 radius curves, $35.00. Call 724-258-3168.
16 PIECES O gauge 072 radius curves, $35.00. Call 724-258-3168.
OFFICE DESK- pecan wood, w/glass top, 2 large file drawers 30W x60Lx30H. $300. 724-684-7310 after 5pm.
POWER CHAIR- large, Quantum 600 with extras. $950. Call 724-483-3156.

5130/FURNITURE

EARLY AMERICAN sofa & chair, gold print, $150; dark blue recliner, like new, $150; 2 end tables & coffee table, marble tops, $150. 724-379-6138

5150/HOME HEALTH CARE

NEW adult potty chair and walker with wheels, both for $50. 724-483-3156

5195/SPORTING GOODS

GOLF BAG- leather, w/ set of A. Palmer irons, 3 to SW. Very good. $90. 724-483-3455.
GOLF CLUBS Power Built new, never used w/bag. $256. 724-483-6724, 412-551-4848

5220/WANTED TO BUY

$ $ $ $
Collector
BUYING GOLD & SILVER COINS JEWELRY & DENTAL GOLD PLATINUM & LIONEL TRAINS
Highest Prices Paid
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724-258-4189
$ $ $ $

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STANDING TIMBER & LOGS
Free est. Highly recommended w/references in your area. 1 acre min. Call JE Logging 724-455-5723 or 724-322-0302

5560/DOGS - PUREBRED

LHASA APSO PUPS for sale $300-$350. Reg aca, 1st shots 724-330-2186.

5600/LOST & FOUND

FOUND young black cat, gold eyes. Monessen Park area, very affectionate 724-684-4645

6050/PARTS & ACCESSORIES

FIBERGLASS spoiler for 2004 Chevy Impala, pearl white, $50 firm 724-258-3168

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6050/PARTS & ACCESSORIES

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6080/AUTOS FOR SALE

2002 CHRYSLER Sebring loaded, sunroof, V6 fuel injected, low miles $5,700. 724-223-0060
2002 HONDA- 38,000 miles, moon roof. Very good condition. $8,200 neg. 724-684-8198.
2005 TAURUS- 4 dr., 16K miles, leather. Extended warranty. $10,800. 724-938-3512
2006 CHEVY COBALT- 25K, black. $10,000. Leave message at 724-366-0656.

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Paying $100 to $125
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1-800-954-3553

GERRY RAYMOND AUTOMOTIVE
2006 BUICK Lacross #8286A, only 13K. Now $15,995
2004 FORD Explorer #7346A, 4x4. Great Buy Now $13,995
2007 CHRYSLER Pacifica #P725. leather, full power. Now $18,995
2004 JEEP Liberty Limited #8146A, 4x4. Now $15,995
2007 CHRYSLER Aspen #8106A, loaded, like new. Now $27,995
2005 CHEVY Malibu, auto, air. Now $13,995
2004 CHEVY Impala LS #7561A. Now $12,995
Rt. 51N, Belle Vernon
724-379-7300

R&M AUTO SALES
724-929-6900
1996 BUICK Skylark, V6, 4 dr. $2,995
2000 FORD Focus, 4 cyl., auto, 4 dr. $4,300.
1996 FORD Taurus Station Wagon, V6, auto, high miles. Looks & runs good. $1,500
1998 CHEVY Malibu, V6, 4 door. $2,500.
2001 OLDS Alero loaded w/options. $5,500
1995 MERCURY Sable, V6, auto, 4 dr. $1,795.
1998 FORD Explorer XLT, V6, 4 dr. $4,200
1997 FORD Explorer, V6, AWD. $3,995
1998 PONTIAC Grand AM SE, 2 door, 4 cyl., auto, CD player. $3,995.

6100/WANTED TO BUY

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6900/HOME IMPROVEMENTS

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